

Times sponsors unique display of Old Masters



Henry VIII by Hans Holbein the younger

By Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

An initiative by *The Times* will bring 50 paintings from the world's greatest private collection of Old Masters to the Royal Academy in London.

The exhibition of works belonging to Baron Thyssen-Bornemisza will be sponsored by *The Times* and will be held from March 18 to June 12 next year.

It will provide a unique opportunity for the British public to see the greatest pictures from the most remarkable private collection in the world, the Queen's apart. As Piers Rodgers, the Royal Academy's secretary, says: "It will be an extraordinary opportunity to see a complete anthology of what's best in Euro-

pean paintings from the fourteenth to the nineteenth centuries."

Yesterday the Baron expressed pleasure that the paintings are coming to London: "I am very excited, I am sure they will look very fine."

One spectacular focus will be the famous portrait of Henry VIII by Hans Holbein the younger, the only autographed painting of the King by that artist, and sold by the Earl of Spencer to the Baron's father in 1934.

A German born in Augsburg about 1497, Holbein had emigrated to London in the 1530s, and was Henry's court painter until his death from plague in 1543. The portrait shows a full-jowled and bearded Henry in all

his finery, from jaunty feather-tipped hat to jewel-encrusted robe.

Executed soon after his marriage to Jane Seymour about 1537, its return to London entails a near-meeting between Henry and one of his prospective wives, in the form of Christina of Denmark, also painted by Holbein, and on permanent view at the National Gallery.

The exhibition includes an impressive line-up of Renaissance portraits such as Memling's sensitive Young Man, his hands folded in prayer; the Master of St. Emmerich's frank portrait of the statesman Robert de Massines, looking chubby and crabby.

From the same era, comes the Virgin and Child enthroned by the Flemish artist, Rogier van der

Weyden. Sitting in peaceful harmony, suckling her newborn child, beneath an ornate Gothic arch, she conveys the essence of this artist's greatness: realism coupled with psychological acumen. It was to influence many of the great artists who followed.

There is Albrecht Dürer's "Christ Among the Doctors", a virtuoso painting demonstrating the influence of Leonardo in the doctor's ageing faces, painted while the artist was based in Venice, followed by two Annunciations by El Greco, painted both early and late in his career, the first an intimate encounter on a mortal scale, the second an elaborate ethereal event accompanied by a full choir of angels.

A gorgeously attired young woman, with smooth skin, ornate hair and cynical eyes is by Dürer's pupil, Hans Baldung, called Grien.

Dutch seventeenth century painting comes alive with intimate genre scenes, landscapes and church interiors by de Hooch, Crisp and Sacredam, while eighteenth century France is represented by hedonists Boucher and Watteau. "La Toilette" by Boucher shows two young ladies revealing more than just their ankles as they dress. Watteau's "Pierrot Content" - which shows a group of women sitting on a grassy bank with the tragic-comic character Pierrot - is one of the earliest works from the artist's series of Fêtes Gallantes exploring the psychology of love.

The exhibition will progress to a climax with a series of great Baroque masterpieces, by artists from both north and south: Frans Hals's "Fisherman Playing the Violin", Rubens's "Portrait of a Lady with a Rosary", Van Dyck's "Portrait of Jacques Le Roy", and also, the painting of St Catherine by the master of dramatic Effect - Caravaggio.

Baron Thyssen's collection is usually housed at the Villa Favozza at Lugano, Switzerland; both his home and a public gallery. It was begun in the 1920s by the present Baron's father. He in turn greatly expanded it, and opened the galleries to the public in 1948. The family's fortune was founded by the present Baron's

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'Hotel charge' proposed for health service

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

The Government is considering a proposal to charge patients for food and accommodation at health service hospitals. Medical care itself will be free.

The "hotel charges" proposal is one of several options being considered, but Mr Antony Newton, the Minister for Health, yesterday effectively ruled out the possibility of charges for people visiting their family doctor.

Tory think tanks have suggested charging patients for family GP visits as a means of reducing unnecessary calls. They say such a scheme would discriminate against those who waste health service resources, rather than those genuinely in need of medical attention.

But ministers are understood to take the view that forcing people to pay for visiting the doctor, even if exceptions were made for the old and needy, would deter some people from seeking treatment as early as they should and possibly add to costs in the long run.

Mr Newton said on BBC Radio Four's *World This Week* yesterday that charges for visiting GPs were "not something for which we've got plans".

However, he confirmed that the idea of bed and board charges for hospital patients

had been put forward. "It would be foolish to get set in concrete and say that this is something we won't in any circumstances consider", he said.

He admitted, however, that there would be "quite a lot of problems in working that out".

Among the ideas for restructuring health service finance being pressed on the

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Government is the suggestion that the 14 regional health boards in England should be abolished. But although the idea is to be considered along with others, ministers are by no means convinced that it would help.

Ministers would face enormous problems in dealing directly with 191 district health authorities. They fear that it could spawn an even bigger bureaucracy in the DHSS to deal with the problems of resource allocation and day-to-day management.

One area the Government is to examine closely is that of consultants' contracts. Ministers would like to see them changed from life to a shorter term, and are considering whether contracts should continue to be held at regional level, or whether district health authorities should have more say.

Senior ministers accept that the pumping into the health service of another £100 million in an emergency package last week has bought time only, and that the major problems of restructuring health finance must be tackled in this Parliament.

It is also becoming widely accepted in the Government that it simply will not be enough to ensure that existing resources are better spent and that hospitals are taught new

ways of income-generation by running shops and banks on their premises.

The Government's political problems were underlined yesterday when a poll of 135 Conservative MPs conducted for London Weekend Television's *Weekend World* showed that 68 per cent of them believed that the Chancellor of the Exchequer should not sacrifice his prospects of tax cuts next spring in order to find more money for the health service.

Of those polled, 63 per cent were in favour of hospital bed and board charges, with exemptions for the old and needy, and 56 per cent were in favour of charges for visits to GPs. Only 34 per cent were firmly opposed.

On tax concessions for private health insurance, 65 per cent were in favour and only 32 per cent against, although the Prime Minister has already ruled out that option.

Sir Barney Hayhoe, a former Minister for Health, warned Tories yesterday not to get out of step with the views of the country on the health service. He said that while the various options for restructuring health service finance should be widely debated, they had not been presented in the last Conservative election manifesto, and should not be implemented until after another general election.

A recent Gallup poll showed that 90 per cent of the public were opposed to the introduction of charges for dental checks and eye tests.

The Government was at pains yesterday to lower expectations about the meeting early next month between Mr John Moore, the Secretary of State for Social Services, Mr Newton, and the presidents of the royal medical colleges. A statement emphasized that the meeting was purely for discussion, and would not be a negotiating occasion.

Thatcher insistent on meeting with Walesa

By Robin Oakley and Nicholas Wood

Mrs Thatcher is understood to be insisting that she will call off her visit to Poland, tentatively scheduled for Whit Sunday, unless she is given an assurance that she can meet Lech Walesa, the former Solidarity leader.

That could pose difficulties for the Polish authorities and provoke demonstrations in Poland where Mrs Thatcher is admired for her stand on human rights.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Foreign Secretary, was applauded by 800 Poles shouting

"Solidarity" and "Long Live England" when, in 1985, he lit a candle at the grave of Father Jerzy Popieluszko, the pro-Solidarity priest murdered by the secret police in 1984.

Any meeting between Mrs Thatcher and Mr Walesa would be likely to spark off a far more extensive demonstration.

Mrs Thatcher, who accepted the invitation from Professor Marian Orzechowski, the Polish Foreign Minister, is said to have a deep affinity with the Poles.



An Israeli soldier grimacing as he and riot police fire tear gas towards Palestinian demonstrators at the Anata refugee camp in the West Bank yesterday

Threat to Bethlehem festivities

From Ian Murray, Bethlehem

The traditional Christmas in Bethlehem is under threat as disturbances in the occupied territories continue.

Palestinian activists, encouraged by worldwide condemnation of Israel for its current policies, are considering how to exploit the propaganda value of a time when the Christian world focuses on the birthplace of Jesus. Palestinian sources say they are delighted with the way the demonstrations and the violence in the occupied territories have captured world attention.

One well-connected source said: "People are having to die to make the world wake up but at last that is happening."

He would not say if anything was being planned in

Bethlehem over Christmas, but the possibility must exist, now that Palestinians have seen Israel so widely condemned.

The attitude of Egypt and the United States worries Israel the most. The Egyptians yesterday called in the Israeli Ambassador in Cairo to make a fifth formal protest in only 10 days about Israeli behaviour in the territories.

There is growing concern in the Israeli Foreign Ministry that Washington may support a UN Security Council resolution later today condemning Israel - even though there has been no sign of such an imminent reversal of America's consistent support for Israel.

In Bethlehem, Mr Elias

Freij, the Christian Mayor, promised yesterday that the Christmas celebrations would go ahead as usual. "Christmas is special and the whole world will be looking towards Bethlehem and the infant child who was born there," he said.

"We will keep our Christmas celebrations, according to protocol and tradition. I will never mix religion and politics. Even though I am totally disappointed with the policies and the actions of the Army in the Arab regions, Christmas is Christmas and I think we should honour the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ on Christmas Day."

But Mr Freij later met with Palestinian leaders, including lawyers and trade unionists, who advised him that it would

be in everyone's interests to cancel the usual festivities, including the procession of the Catholic Patriarch and mid-night carol singing in Manger Square.

The Mayor was last night still considering the proper response to an appeal from such an influential group.

It is clear, too, that the overstretched Israeli security forces are even more apprehensive about policing Bethlehem this Christmas than usual.

Every year, they mount a large-scale operation in the town, rounding up dozens of potential troublemakers in the days before December 25 and sending in large numbers of

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Maxwell Watford bid is off

Mr Elton John, the Watford Football Club chairman, was back in charge yesterday after asking Mr Robert Maxwell to withdraw the offer of BPCC, his company, to buy his shares for around £2 million.

Mr John, whose club had become a pawn in a power struggle between Mr Maxwell and the Football League, was keen to extricate Watford from the squabble. The League objected to Mr Maxwell controlling Watford as well as Derby County, where he is the chairman, and Oxford United, where Kevin, a son, is in charge. John said the decision placed the clubs in an impossible position.

Full report, page 39

IN PART 2

Texaco settles

Texaco, the US oil conglomerate, has agreed to pay out \$3.5 billion (£3 billion) to end its four-year battle with Pennzoil over the purchase of Getty Oil. Page 19

SAS offer

An increased bid by Scandinavian Airlines System for a 23.5 per cent share of British Caledonian is expected today or tomorrow. Page 19

Venables joy

Tottenham Hotspur celebrated their first victory under Terry Venables, beating Derby County 2-1. Page 29

Portfolio

● A Berkshire reader won the £3,000 weekly prize in the Times Portfolio Gold competition on Saturday. The £4,000 daily prize was won by a London reader. Details, page 3. ● Portfolio list, page 23.

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Kasparov set to be a millionaire

A triumphant Gary Kasparov was crowned on Saturday night for the third time in two years as chess champion of the world, and metaphorically danced on the grave of his defeated foe, Anatoly Karpov.

As he downed Spanish champion Karpov, aged 24, looked forward with relish to the three-year treadmill Karpov will have to embark on if he wants to challenge again. "Three years, three," the young Russian chanted.

The enfant terrible of chess, a long-time critic of the Soviet chess establishment, is now set to become a Marxist millionaire. With three years as champion ahead he can concentrate on making chess a supremely bankable proposition.

When he sits down to defend his title in 1990, he may well face a Briton. Nigel Short is already in the qualifying tournament.

Full reports, page 2

Workers 'open to blanket dismissal'

By Howard Foster

A controversial ruling by a senior judge has left company employees open to blanket dismissal if their employers suspect just one of them of dishonesty.

The possibility of a group of workers in a shop or factory being dismissed because of unsolved crime was opened last October when Mr Justice Poppell, president of the Employment Appeal Tribunal, decided that employers were entitled to dismiss a group of workers in the hope of getting rid of persons unknown who were responsible for pilfering.

The ruling, previously unreported, has been highlighted in an issue of the *Law Society Gazette*. Four women who worked part-time for an Liverpool off-licence lost their jobs when their employers, Whitbread, unable to trace the culprit or culprits responsible for serious stock losses,

carried out the blanket dismissals.

The women won their cases for unfair dismissal at an industrial tribunal but the company, won a tribunal appeal before Mr Justice Poppell, who headed the Bradford fire inquiry. The case is now before the Court of Appeal.

The judgement means that employers can dismiss staff even though they know that some of them are probably innocent. Mr Justice Poppell ruled that even though some workers in such situations might be blameless, there were times when employers would be justified in carrying out wholesale dismissals in an attempt to deal with problems such as those experienced by Whitbread.

He laid down guidelines setting out the criteria necessary to justify such a move.

Continued on page 18, col 1

BBC apologizes for Queen's broadcast leak

By David Sapstead

The BBC admitted responsibility yesterday for the embarrassing publication of the contents of the Queen's Christmas broadcast and ordered a full, internal inquiry.

Earlier in the day, the BBC had blamed tabloid newspapers for disclosing the details in advance. The corporation's acceptance of responsibility, with an apology to Buckingham Palace over the incident, cleared Downing Street and members of the Royal Household, both of which were initially implicated, of any involvement.

The story was broken after Mr Michael Cole, the BBC Court Correspondent, discussed the Queen's broadcast with nine other journalists at a private luncheon last Friday. Details appeared in six tabloid newspapers on Saturday.

Mr Teddy Taylor, the former Conservative minister, said yesterday: "When information about the Queen is entrusted to a limited number of people, it is essential this is respected. Otherwise, next time, it could be a leak about something important," he said.

The BBC refused to confirm that Mr Cole was responsible for the leak. Mr Cole, aged 44, also declined to discuss the issue yesterday.

Buckingham Palace had already described the leaking as "regrettable". Mr Cole was the only person to have seen the recording who attended the informal Christmas luncheon.

A BBC statement released yesterday said: "The BBC regrets that the confidentiality of the contents of the Queen's broadcast has been breached

before transmission by whatever source. We will be conducting an internal inquiry."

Court correspondents from only four organizations, the BBC, ITN, Independent Radio News and the Press Association, are allowed to see a transcript of the message beforehand.

The court correspondents of ITN, IRN and PA were not at the turkey luncheon. Among them was a correspondent from *The Times*, which decided not to break the embargo.

The *Times* correspondent Alan Hamilton writes: The £25-a-head informal gathering was intended as a purely social occasion. During the lunch Mr Cole mentioned details of the broadcast on what he could reasonably have assumed was an entirely off-the-record basis.

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Tories seek backing for abolition of regional NHS tier

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Conservative MPs are trying to get the support of district health authorities in a move to abolish the regional health authority tier of the National Health Service.

The Government is also continuing its attack on the medical profession by drawing up proposals to put consultants on fixed-term contracts and to restrict doctors to either health service or private practice.

That scheme, which will need primary legislation and has been vigorously attacked by the British Medical Association, will be discussed, together with long-term funding proposals for the health service, with the presidents of the Royal Medical Colleges at a meeting with Mr Antony Newton, Minister for Health, in the new year.

The 14 regional health authorities in England, which oversee 191 district health authorities, saw their role reduced when the National Health Service Management Board was set up in 1984.

Now Downing Street is encouraging Tory MPs to discuss with local health managers the feasibility of removing regional managers and their teams of officers and support staff, and of selling off regional accommodation as another cost efficiency exercise.

The move is likely to get support from the districts who would be given more autonomy and therefore greater powers if they reported managerially directly to the NHS Management Board.

Although the Department of Health yesterday denied that another restructuring of health service management

was on the cards, NHS sources yesterday revealed that a small group of Department of Health and Social Security Civil Servants and health service managers had been set up to discuss the future of regions.

It also emerged yesterday that a separate policy group within the DHSS had consulted regional and general managers on proposals to introduce fixed term contracts for consultants and a scheme to make doctors opt to work exclusively either for the health service or for the private sector.

The proposals, which have the support of at least some health ministers and could be presented as a Bill in the next parliamentary session, also suggest that districts rather than regions should hold consultants' contracts.

Districts argue that if regions were abolished there would have to be some regional representatives to organize services that are provided on a region-wide basis, such as radio therapy and neurological services.

Regional general managers have been consulted on proposals to tighten up consultants' contracts to ensure that doctors do not abuse their health service commitments. Under present contracts doctors can either opt to work full-time for the NHS or to work for one eleventh of their time in the private sector.

The new proposals drawn up by a DHSS policy group reporting directly to Mr Michael Partridge, second permanent secretary responsible for health, would mean the doctors would be given extra

money if they chose to work only for the health service.

Their salaries of between £25,000 to £30,000 (without the addition of merit money) would be boosted to about £50,000. The proposals also involve changing consultants' life-long contracts on to a fixed five-year contract.

The Government is set to extend the privatization of NHS ancillary services to break the deadlock in the dispute over the funding of the National Health Service, according to *Impulse*, published by the right-wing pressure group, Pulse, the Public and Local Service Efficiency Campaign (Roland Rudd writes).

It reports that as the first round of competitive tendering for health service ancillary services draws to a close, Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Social Services, is planning to introduce competition to new areas, as well as promoting a second round of tendering in the services of cleaning, catering and laundry.

Impulse says new candidates for privatization include services such as portering, pharmacy, pathology and non-emergency ambulance services.

A senior doctor who has been suspended from duty for speaking to the press about cuts in family planning services will face disciplinary action within the next few weeks. Dr Gillian Cardy, a medical officer in Bath's Health Authority, was suspended after telling a newspaper that a 30 per cent cut in family planning services would lead to unwanted pregnancies.

Skiing to a roof-top European record



Mr Norman Clark, aged 25 and from Glasgow, on his way yesterday to breaking the European car-top skiing record, in which he reached a speed of 141.5mph.

He was strapped to the roof of a turbo-charged BMW 745i car built by AVA Turbo Systems, of Clydebank, and driven by his brother, Alan. Car-top skiing began as a method of practising for downhill speed skiing, and the record was held by another two brothers, Graham and Stuart Wilkie from Guildford, with 134mph. Mr Clark's record was at RAF Machrihanish, near Campbeltown, Argyll.

Yesterday's event will raise about £3,000 for Back Up, a charity for the spinally injured.

(Photograph: Tom Kidd)

Video watch on cash card tills

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Increasing vandalism of cash machines has led the Halifax, Britain's largest building society, to offer cash rewards and install video surveillance.

The society will offer rewards to anyone who helps to identify vandals who are prosecuted.

The more vulnerable machines are usually in inner city areas, the society says. Vandals gum up machines with "superglue", attack them with crowbars and set them alight with petrol. The machines cost £25,000 each.

Crimestoppers, page 5

Portfolio Gold — £8,000 prize is no joke

Mr Paul Levitch, aged 41, has won the weekly £8,000 Portfolio Gold prize.

"It is quite funny really; my wife, Susan, always makes a joke about me not winning and keeps saying to me: 'What's the point?'"

Mr Levitch, manager of sales and the repair of steam turbines for a large American electronics company, added: "I have the answer now and I won't forget it in a hurry. It was a great surprise."

The win means that the family, of Kennel Ride, Ascot, Berkshire, will be able to book their summer holiday in

Greece, buy some extra Christmas presents and invest the remainder of the winnings to help to pay for his daughter at university.

The winner of the £4,000 daily prize is Mr Ian Smith, a computer specialist, aged 27, of Piquet Road, Anerley, south-east London.

Portfolio Gold cards can be obtained by sending a stamped, addressed envelope to:

Portfolio Gold, The Times, PO Box 40, Blackburn, BB1 6AJ.

Aids treatment

First mobile unit launched

The first British mobile Aids team will start work this week, operating from Newcastle upon Tyne. The team will treat patients in their own homes, supporting families of victims and helping to break down the prejudice that makes carriers outcasts in their own communities.

The Northern Regional Health Authority unit will include a psychologist, a nurse, social worker and office manager. It will cover the Northumbria, Durham, Cumbria, Tyneside, and Teesside areas.

It is a pioneering scheme, set up with £88,000 provided by the Government, and will be closely watched by other authorities.

Dr George Forster, a spokesman for the authority, said yesterday that the unit had several roles. It would provide professional support for relatives and sufferers so they could spend as much time as possible at home before going into hospital.

The team would also support doctors and other workers already treating Aids sufferers, and collect data on the disease and methods of caring for patients.

"Aids sufferers tend to be thought of as outcasts in the community. They like to keep themselves to themselves. There are cases where they lose their jobs, or their children are ostracized at school. They need a lot of emotional

support, which we hope to give", Dr Forster said.

"Current predictions are that the disease will spread, and the centre will have to expand to cope with that".

The region has had 21 deaths from Aids. At the moment, 31 cases are being treated.

Paul and Linda McCartney, Shirley Bassey, Boy George and Frank Bruno are among the celebrities who have given items for sale at a charity auction today.

The auction, at Hamilton's Gallery, Mayfair, London, has been organized by Mr Richard Branson, who hopes it will raise up to £100,000 for Aids telephone helplines, education and support projects.

Infection halted in laboratory tests

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Genetic engineers have made a breakthrough that opens the way to a new treatment to stop the spread of the Aids virus.

It could be tried in humans within a year.

The scientists have used a naturally occurring molecule, CD4, to provide a "biological sponge" that absorbs the virus.

The idea is to develop a drug on the same principle that latches on to the infectious organism, stopping its spread.

In experiments, the Aids virus was added to an equal mixture of the sponge molecule and the cells that become infected in the body.

Repeatedly, the CD4 protein molecule prevented more

than 99 per cent of the cells from being infected.

The discovery by two teams of scientists led by Dr Jerome Groopman, of the New England Deaconess Hospital, in Boston, and Dr Daniel Capon, of Genentech laboratories, in San Francisco, is reported in *Science*, the publication of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Their breakthrough comes with the genetic manipulation of a micro-organism to synthesize the CD4 molecule.

When a CD4 preparation is given to people infected with the Aids virus, it should act as a decoy, absorbing the virus and halting the spread to new cells.

The scientists turn a micro-organism into a biological factory that generates the CD4 by obtaining the gene which controls the production of CD4.

The CD4 protein is one of the cell molecules first attacked by the virus.

A suggestion that Western governments should jointly offer a prize of £20,000 million for a cure which would successfully treat 99 per cent of people with Aids is put forward today by Dr David Horrobin, chief executive of Efanol Ltd, in an article in the latest issue of *Economic Affairs*, published by the Institute of Economic Affairs.

Moore works will pay for death tax

By Sarah Jane Checkland, Art Market Correspondent

A group of eight Henry Moore drawings from the estate of Lord Clark has been accepted by the Government in lieu of tax, the Department of the Environment has confirmed.

The works, valued at £450,000, will go to the British Museum.

But their owner, Mr Alan Clark, the Minister for Trade who is Lord Clark's son, has complained bitterly about the delay of more than 14 months it has taken to process the deal.

"The whole business has been a misery", Mr Clark said last week, while still unaware of the outcome.

"It would have been much easier if I had sold them three years ago on the open market. I would have had the cash ages ago, and paid the tax."

Mr Clark first approached the Office of Arts and Libraries with the drawings well over a year ago, on the understanding that the matter would be dealt with speedily.

Tinsel and TV usurp the scene

Tinsel, turkey, television and toys remain the most important elements of the family Christmas, a survey discloses today.

The report by the Family Policy Studies Centre shows that Britons will celebrate by decorating five million spruce trees and eating 10 million turkeys. Three out of five considered the family Christmas dinner the best part of the season.

For the rest of the holiday, most people will sit in front of the television. During last year's Christmas week, Britons watched an average 36 hours and 12 minutes each.

Each child on average will receive between £70 and £80 of gifts.

Half those questioned admitted to family arguments.

Stores are preparing for a surge of shopping in the last few days before Christmas. The John Lewis Partnership, with 21 stores in Britain, says sales are up by 8.7 per cent. Boots reports booming sales of cosmetics and perfumes and Harrods has sold 20,000 teddy bears.

Leading article, page 11

For some people, a winter heating bill can be a real problem



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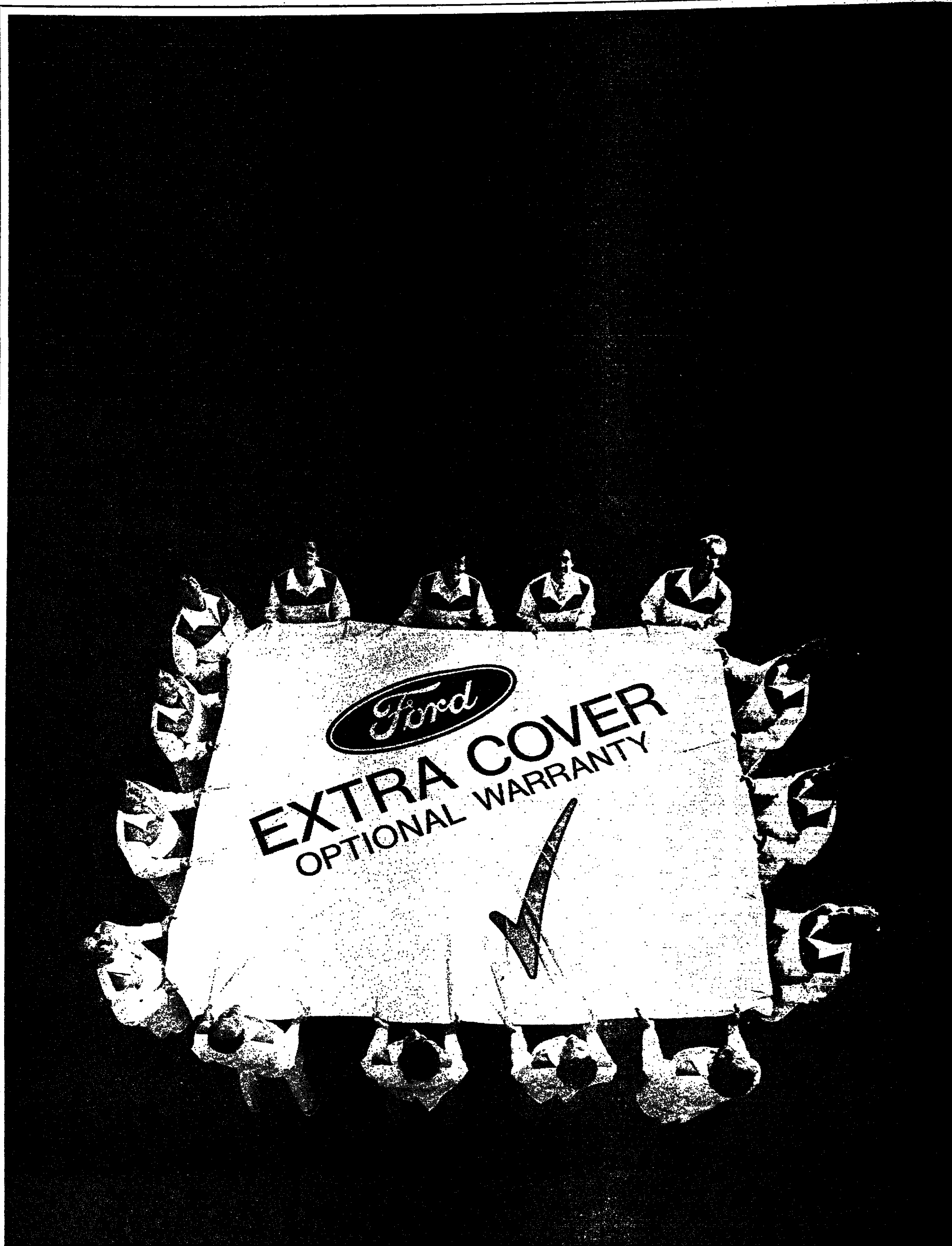
Of course, the overwhelming majority of our 15 million domestic customers do pay their bills. Only a tiny proportion are cut off. But the pity is that, in many of these cases, disconnection could have been avoided. If customers with difficulties tell

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200 drivers escape courts by choosing police retraining

By Daniel Ward, Motor Industry Correspondent

More than 200 drivers in Nottingham have escaped prosecution for careless driving by agreeing to take an eight-hour police driving course. Most of the offenders caused a minor accident when turning right at a road junction.

Nottingham police would like drivers retraining to be part of the penalty set by courts for traffic offences.

Experts from the North review on road traffic law, which will be presented to ministers in January, have observed the experimental Nottingham scheme so that they can make recommendations on how Britain should

tackle driver retraining in the 1990s.

Members of the review team, headed by Dr Peter North, a principal of Jesus College, Oxford, have visited the United States and Germany where retraining schemes are used extensively.

Dr North said yesterday that 20 retraining courses are being run for those drivers considered to be incompetent, irresponsible or to have a drink problem. However Nottingham's "driver retraining" course is unusual because offenders attend as an alternative to prosecution.

Normally retraining is part

of a court order and the motorist would still receive the normal licence penalty points and perhaps a reduced fine.

Supt Roger Storey, head of Nottingham's traffic division, said that prosecution does nothing to make the offender a better driver.

When a sound prosecution case for careless driving can be made against a driver involved in a non-fatal accident and there is a clearly identifiable driving fault, then the driver is offered the chance to attend the Nottingham course. So far 160 men and 66 women of all ages have attended the courses.

The scheme's flaw is that offenders who have no intention of improving their driving take the course as a way of evading prosecution. Insp Michael Dobbs, head of the Nottingham police driving school, said that most wanted to learn from the course, although he admitted it was open to abuse.

The one-day course involves lectures and tuition by police officers. Insp Dobbs said that some young drivers learnt quickly and reached a higher standard than some police drivers.

If the scheme was adopted on a national basis, driving schools could apply to run retraining courses for the police.

British car sales set for 2m record

Sales of new cars in Britain are expected to pass two million on Wednesday for the first time. It marks a sharp retreat in the growing market share taken by foreign imports.

The buoyant economy has helped new car sales to rise 50 per cent above the registrations for 1977. Imports have been cut as both Ford and Vauxhall increased production from their British car plants to record levels.

Ford will sell close to 600,000 cars in 1987 with more than 400,000 built in Britain, against 317,000 two

years ago. Vauxhall sales have slipped this year but its Luton and Ellesmere Port factories will still produce almost 190,000 cars, compared with 112,000 in 1982.

British car production will receive a further boost next year when Nissan's Sunderland model, finally achieve British status and exports of the Bluebird model to the Continent begin in October.

Rover Group will achieve only a modest improvement on 1986 production but it will return to an operating profit.

Motorway repairs

Lane closures ahead on M1

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

Repairs to southern sections of the M1 start in the new year.

Between next month and March there will be lane closures on both carriageways between junctions 12 and 13, north of Toddington, and between June and August a contraflow will operate on the northbound carriageway.

There will be works between junctions 4 and 5, north of Elstree, from March to November.

Figures given in Parliament by Mr Peter Bottomley, minister responsible for roads and traffic, show that spending on maintenance work on the M1, at constant prices, rose from almost £11 million in 1979-80 to about £30 million a year between 1982-1985, and then fell to £20 million in 1985-86.

Major roadworks until next Monday:

London and the South-east

M4 London: occasional daytime lane closures and overnight carriageway closures.

M11 Essex: southbound lane closures between jns 5 and 4 (Loughton/North Circular Road). Long delays at morning peak.

M11 Essex: off-peak lane closures and speed restrictions at jn 8 (Stansted airport).

M11 Essex: contraflow between jns 8 and 10 (Bishops Cleeve/Dunstable). Carriageway closures at weekend and diversions.

M27 Hampshire: flyover construction between M27 and Rushmore roundabout.

M3 Hampshire: lane closures between jns 7-9 (Basingstoke/Winchester) in both directions.

M2 Kent: contraflow at jn 4 (Gillingham).

Midlands

M1 Leicestershire: contraflow between jns 24 and 25 (A6 airport/Nottingham).

M5 Hereford/Worcester: lane closures in both directions, jns 5-6 (Orengrove/Worcester north). Northbound entry slip at jn 6 closed. Overnight carriageway closures with diversions.

M5 West Midlands: lane closures jns 1-2 (West Bromwich/Birmingham west). Southbound entry slip at jn 1 and northbound entry slip at jn 2 closed.

North

M62 West Yorkshire: contraflow between jns 25 and 26 (A644 Brighouse/M606 Bradford).

M63 Greater Manchester: restrictions for widening of Barton Bridge. Serious peak hour congestion. Construction

of M63 flyover at Portwood roundabout, Stockport. Reduced to two lanes.

Wales and the West

M4 Gwent: lane restrictions between jns 23 and 24 (Magor/A48).

M4 Mid-Glamorgan: crash barrier repairs between jns 34 and 37 (Llantrisant/Portcawl).

M4 West Glamorgan: eastbound lane closures at jn 45 (A4067).

M5 Gloucestershire: contraflow between jns 11 and 12 (Cheltenham/Gloucester).

M5 Somerset: lane closures on both carriageways between jns 23 and 26 (A38/Wellington).

Scotland

M8 Lothian: eastbound traffic down to hard shoulder only and no access from A899 at Livingston.

M8 Strathclyde: eastbound inside lane closed between jns 27 and 29 (Renfrew/Paisley). Outside lane closed both ways between jns 29 and 30 (Paisley/Erskine Bridge).

M9 Central Region: lane closures both ways between jns 9 and 10 (M80/Stirling).

M90 Fife: one lane only on both carriageways at jn 1 (Admiralty flyover). Information compiled and supplied by AA Roadwatch

Fair hand for a tough job in Pennines



The mysteries of dry stone walling are no longer a male preserve. Miss Patten, aged 23, shown working on a damaged section of wall high in the Yorkshire Pennines, has been awarded a master craftsman certificate by the Dry Stone Walling Association. Miss Patten, from

Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire, began her career three years ago as a trainee on a government-sponsored community project for the unemployed. Now she is taking her vocation a stage further by training for a teaching certificate. She has already been approached to teach in Portugal

and the United States, both countries where the craft of dry stone walling has almost died out. What her future pupils will make of being shown their craft by a tousle-haired young woman instead of a tweeded daleman is uncertain, but Miss Patten expects no soft treatment. She remembers the

words of one of her instructors on a particularly freezing Yorkshire winter's day. "This will sort the men from the boys", he said. "I don't know about the men and the boys but I was the last one to leave the site", she recalled.

(Photograph: Barry Greenwood)

MP takes up bride sales case

A Birmingham man who allegedly sold two of his daughters as brides to Yemeni men may face action over his right to remain in Britain.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, Conservative MP for Selly Oak, has called for Mr Mathana Mubsen to be deported.

"What he did was an illegal act and if there is any way of chucking him out, then we ought to do it", Mr Beaumont-Dark said.

The girls, Zana and Nadia Mubsen, were allegedly tricked by their Yemen-born father into visiting North Yemen five years ago, believing it was a holiday.

Only after their arrival did the sisters discover they were to be married to local men, allegedly at a price of £1,300 each.

The girls, now aged 20 and 22, were raised in Birmingham. Both have had children since their marriages. They had to work in the fields around Moksba, mountainous landless territory, until their labour pains began.

Villagers have told the girls that they can never return to Birmingham because under tribal law they must have their husbands' consent. That is unlikely to be granted.

Reforms in the courts' handling of family and child abuse cases, with a family court, and more hearings in open court are proposed by Sir John Arnold, President of the High Court family division, today. Sir John, who sits today for the last time before his retirement, would also like tighter investigative procedures in the wake of the Cleveland child abuse inquiry. He added that live video links, which the Government is proposing should be used for taking evidence in child abuse criminal proceedings, should be used in civil proceedings as well.

His proposals come at a critical time for family law. A government decision is still awaited on a family court and a wholesale overhaul of child care law is also expected.

Sir John believes that any holding back of a reform such as a unified family court on money grounds can be done only if well justified. He said: "There is not such inevitability of a substantial increase in public expenditure through the introduction of a family court as to justify its delay on any fiscal ground."

Sir John, who will be succeeded by Lord Justice Stephen Brown, has been in the

forefront of efforts to promote a family court in recent years, and may well - although he does not admit to it - harbour regrets at not seeing the reform into existence.

He emphasized that a family court would not be the complete formula for improving the way courts tackle family disputes, but it would make more efficient the administration of family law.

Sir John said that the family work of the courts had changed considerably in his eight years as the most senior family court judge.

He added: "The contested divorce is now almost non-existent; the bulk of the work



Sir John Arnold: hoping to see change go further.

now concerns children in the context of local authority wardship, and to a lesser extent the redistribution of finance after the breakdown of marriage."

The High Court family division has come in for attack in recent years for the number of hearings held in private.

Sir John maintained that it was wrong for hearings to be in chambers just because they take place in the Queen's Bench division while the same application would be heard in open court in the Chancery division.

It was "remarkable" that a wardship case would be heard initially in chambers but, if it went to the Court of Appeal, would have to be heard in open court, he said. The test should be whether justice would be better served by a chambers hearing, and "in the vast majority of child cases" that would be the case.

However, in cases of sorting out property and capital and income on divorce "an automatic embargo on hearing of property and income cases in open court does go too far", he added.

On Cleveland, Sir John said that the lesson to be learnt was "the desirability of establish-

ing some investigative norm" to be applied in child abuse cases. There needed to be some sort of safeguard built into the procedure for removing a child from its home, which would give the court a more active role in exercising its powers. It was not good enough for the social worker to put the case for the child's removal and for the magistrate simply to agree.

Sir John said that he was in favour of live video links in child abuse cases, but not video-recorded interviews. Those would be done by people not trained in the rules of evidence.

He saw no objection in principle to merging the jurisdictions of the High Court and county court, the proposal from the Lord Chancellor's officials which is widely opposed by judges and the Bar. Sir John said that such an arrangement could work perfectly well provided there was an efficient machine to distribute cases to their right level, and "something identifiable as a High Court tier".

Sir John, who is retiring to live in Tuscany, will watch developments from a distance. Some of the reforms he would like to see are only part-way down the road.

Scottish airline relaunch attempt

Mr Randolph Fields, the founder of the collapsed Scottish airline, Highland Express, said yesterday that a new transatlantic carrier could be flying in the new year.

A new company, as yet unnamed, will be formed to take over the chairmanship of Sir Ian MacGregor, the former Coal Board chief. Agreements with creditors will be sought later in the week.

It is hoped that operations could begin again in March, with charter flights running in January and February.

The proposal was announced at Prestwick airport, the airline's base, on Saturday after a meeting between Mr Fields, Mr MacGregor and Mr

Greg Copley, an Australian businessman, who agreed last week to form part of a rescue consortium.

An agreement with Citicorp, the New York-based company which owns and leases Highland Express's only aircraft, a Boeing 747, will be crucial to their success.

Highland Express also owes nearly £2 million to Sabena, the company which carried out maintenance work on the aircraft, the former British Airways Authority, which is owed landing charges, BP, which supplied fuel, the Inland Revenue, which is owed arrears in PAYE payments, and various other companies.

The full extent of the debt will be made known at a

creditors' meeting in London today. A spokesman for Touche Ross, the liquidators called in by the airline 10 days ago, said it was in the interests of the creditors that the consortium succeeded.

Nearly 1,800 passengers have paid for, and still hold, Highland Express tickets. So far, no other airline has agreed to accept the tickets. If a rescue attempt is successful, however, the new company hopes to honour them.

Mr Fields said that £3 million of the £5 million needed to get the rescue package off the ground had been secured. Staff had also agreed to a period of working on reduced wages.

Water boards defend supplies

The public water supply is safe and cheap, the Water Authorities Association says today in reply to criticism by the European Economic Commission and conservation groups about pollution and possible cancer risks in the water treatment processes.

The association's report, *Drinking Water Quality: The Facts*, has, however, been condemned by conservationist groups as an attempt to deflect criticism in the run up to privatization.

It says pollution is kept at "levels that are safe on the basis of independent medical advice to the Government". Lead levels had been "greatly diminished by a 10-year period of water treatment".

The water supply is so safe, the report says, that buying bottled water on health grounds is an expensive waste of money: it is about 1,000 times more costly than tap water.

People had been unnecessarily alarmed by reports of pollution, leading to "cowboy firms" selling expensive water filters which can pollute the water they are supposed to clean.

Mr Andrew Lees, of the Friends of the Earth organization, said that dubious science in the report showed that water experts are being forced to put the best interpretation on the facts for political reasons.

Friends of the Earth made a formal complaint to the European Economic Commission earlier this year that the British Government was interpreting new EEC rules on allowable nitrate content of drinking water to allow higher limits.

The report concedes that this interpretation was wrong, but Mr Lees said that no action has been taken to correct excessive nitrate levels in some water supplies. Further complaints will be made to the commission next year, he added.

A survey by the Consumers Association in 1985 showed that a quarter of the population was drinking substandard water.

Scrooge hotel bosses fail to pass on tips

Hotel and restaurant employers who fail to pass on to their staff the service charge paid by customers have been called Scrooges by the general workers' union, GMB.

Mr Michael Fisher, the union's national officer, has urged diners to find out to whom their tips go this Christmas. "Often these tips disappear into the employers' coffers", he said.

Many hotels and restaurants added a service charge to the bill but there was no obligation for employers to pass that on to their staff, he said.

"Bosses who do not are present-day Scrooges. All too often tips go to fatten up company profits or lead to low rates of pay from employers, who claim staff can make it up in tips."

The minimum wage for hotel and catering workers was £2 an hour except for those under 21 who have no protection, he said.

TV cover for police reward scheme

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Scotland Yard is putting finishing touches to the launch next month of its Crime Stoppers scheme offering rewards for anonymous information leading to arrests for certain crimes of violence.

The scheme, funded with £500,000 raised by a group of businessmen under a charity called the Community Action Trust, begins on January 12.

Crime Stoppers, modelled on a successful American system, will offer rewards of up to £200 on crimes selected and publicized each week or for information on other offences.

In the US Crime Stoppers schemes have resulted in the recovery of assets worth about £400 million, solved 92,000 cases and led to 21,000 convictions. A small-scale scheme has been run for several years by Norfolk police.

The London scheme is more ambitious and hopes to reach three potential types of

An Industry Watch security system modelled on Neighborhood Watch has been successfully introduced at Knowsley Industrial Park in Kirkby, Merseyside, one of western Europe's largest industrial estates.

Eighteen months ago theft and vandalism was so rife that some of the site's 350 companies were unable to obtain insurance cover.

Knowsley Industries Association co-operated with police

informant. Those are people who have lost faith in the legal system and would not normally talk to the police; people involved in the crime themselves, and families or friends of criminals.

Each week the police will choose a "target" crime of violence which may be a mugging, a rape, a murder or a violent attack. Those are the types of crime which rarely attract the sort of rewards available for such crimes

and the local council and set up a pilot Industry Watch scheme to keep a protective eye on adjoining premises, reporting anything suspicious to police and installing floodlights and fences.

In the nine months before the scheme was introduced there were 282 burglaries or thefts in the area. In the past nine months there has been a 40 per cent reduction in those crimes and the scheme is to spread to the whole estate.

The crime will be chosen from cases sent by detectives from all over London to a special team headed by Commander Neil Dickens, head of crime in the territorial operations department at the Yard.

Details of the crime and an appeal for help will be broadcast in a series of 50 second "spots" during commercial breaks once a day at different times on local television and radio. Local and evening

newspapers in London will also publicize the case.

Mr Dickens's team of half a dozen detectives will man Freephone telephone lines to take calls. The detectives are expected to sift through the information and draw out as much as possible from the source, also watching for hoaxes.

The information would be used as the basis for further investigation and not as the only basis of an arrest. It would need to be corroborated.

Informants who want to be anonymous will be given a special code and if their information leads to arrests or charges they can apply for the reward. Their claim will be considered by a management committee drawn from the charity which will arrange security payment.

In the US only about 40 per cent of rewards are claimed and the small size of the reward is said to have discouraged corruption.

Early 'licence' release urged for prisoners

Automatic release on licence should be granted for prisoners serving sentences of six months to three years, the Howard League penal reform group says in a report today.

Release should be granted, with supervision by a probation officer, after one third of the sentence. The licence would continue until the two-thirds point of the sentence.

The report, which has gone to a government committee reviewing the parole system, says: "Research shows that longer sentences are no more successful in preventing or reducing further offences than shorter ones."

"Automatic release on licence would not only assist reintegration into society for many, but would provide for better management of risk for those who are not currently supervised at all."

Submission to the Committee Undertaking the Review of the Parole System (Howard League, 322 Kennington Park Road, London SE11 4PP, £1).

Four years old. Seriously underweight for her age. Scavenging for food where she can find it. And she's English.



With parents who refused to acknowledge that she even existed this child was being slowly and deliberately starved. Here in England.

Fortunately we found her in time. Yet without your donations we'd have been powerless to help.

£20.66 can begin to protect a child from abuse. And that's the sum we're asking for now.

If you can't afford quite that much, all donations are gratefully received.

I want to help protect a child and enclose my cheque or postal order.

£20.66 £41.32 £61.98

Access and Visa card holders may debit their accounts. No.

Expiry date: BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Please send your donation to: Dr. A. G. Brown, Ref. BHS/4 NSPCC, FREEPOST, London EC1R 9JQ. NSPCC

To protect the child's identity the bar has been changed.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Iraq says Tehran offensive halted

Baghdad (Reuters) — Iraq said yesterday it had thrown back a big Iranian offensive on the south-central war front. A military communiqué said the offensive, spearheaded by two brigades, was launched on Saturday night in the Zubaidat marshland area, about 125 miles north-east of Basra and was repulsed after about 12 hours of fighting. It said the Iraqis suffered heavy losses.

But Iran yesterday claimed its forces mauled four Iraqi battalions, inflicting hundreds of casualties, in an overnight "blitz" on the south-central war front. An Iranian military source, quoted by the Iranian news agency Irna, denied the Baghdad statement that the attack was a major offensive.

● **Ayatollah address:** The state-controlled Iranian media yesterday broadcast the entire address of Ayatollah Hussein-Ali Montazeri, who is thought to be Ayatollah Khomeini's chosen successor, to a joint meeting of academic and clerical representatives in Qom (Hazrat Tahmoubari writes).

Korea jet exploded Officer released

Seoul — South Korean investigators have confirmed that a mid-air explosion was responsible for the loss of a Korean Air jet with 115 people on board last month. Debris recovered from the sea off Burma, including a life raft and emergency medical supplies, showed clear signs of severe blast damage (Gavin Bell writes).

A prosecutor said that, contrary to earlier reports, the woman suspect detained in Bahrain after she left the aircraft at Abu Dhabi does not speak Korean and is a national of a foreign country, possibly Japan or China.

Athena — A Greek policeman was freed at the weekend after appealing against a 13-month manslaughter sentence for the accidental shooting of Katherine Bull, aged 22, of Cardiff, in 1985 (A Correspondent writes).

A plainclothes officer, Mr. Nicolaos Stathopoulos, said that his pistol went off while he was grappling with her boyfriend, Mr. Dennis Taylor, an American geophysicist. The incident occurred in the seaside suburb of Glyfada on August 15, 1985, after the officer stopped the couple for what he said was an identity check.

Thai raids attacked

Bangkok (AP) — Laos has lodged a protest at the United Nations about Thai bombing and artillery assaults last week on hills in Sayaboury Province, an area which is the subject of a territorial dispute. The incident appeared to be the worst fighting between the countries in three years.

The Thai Army confirmed the assaults, but said that it was trying to retake territory seized by intruding Laotian forces. In the letter of protest to Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the UN Secretary-General, Laos said that the assaults on "Hill 1428" and other hills west of Botene district — which involved 550 lb bombs and 105mm and 155mm artillery — demonstrated that Thailand wished to settle the conflict by force.

Bulgarian Courting link fades critics

Rome — The supposed Bulgarian connection in the assassination attempt on the Pope has finally faded into obscurity (A Correspondent writes).

A Rome Appeal Court on Saturday confirmed verdicts of "not guilty through lack of evidence" — the same verdicts at the end of the first trial on March 29 last year — for three Bulgarians and three Turks accused of organizing the 1981 shooting of the Pope by the Turk, Mehmet Ali Agca. Under Italian law, this verdict allows for a margin of doubt.

Sri Lanka merger

Delhi (Reuters) — Sri Lanka will soon issue an order merging its Northern and Eastern provinces to end the strife between Tamils and the Colombo Government, All-India Radio reported yesterday. The radio quoted an Indian government spokesman in Madras as saying the merger, for which he gave no exact date, had been urged on Sri Lanka by India. Combining the Tamil-majority north with the Eastern province, where the Tamil population is roughly matched by the Sinhalese and Muslim communities, was one of the main demands of the Tamil militants.

Politics based on race returns to Deep South

From Michael Binyon
Birmingham, Alabama

These are difficult times in the Deep South. Poverty, rural backwardness and a stunted legacy from the George Wallace era have left the heart of Dixie beating with only a faint pulse.

But Alabama, so long a foregone political conclusion, is playing a key role in the 1988 presidential campaign. And for at least two candidates this state and those around it will decide whether the South's Super Tuesday leads to the nomination or a dead end.

Race has always been the bane of Southern politics. The segregationist stranglehold has long been broken: the famous refusal of Rosa Parks to move to the "back of the bus" occurred 32 years ago, and Governor Wallace's stand in the Montgomery schoolhouse door is now in the newsmagazine archives.

But the old image has inflicted lasting damage on Alabama, searing away new investment, inhibiting a vitally needed infusion of new industry. Alabamians are paying now for opportunities missed a

generation ago and the state, poor and ill-educated, where rural infant mortality rates equal those of Latin America, faces a hard, bleak future.

Ironically, race has returned as a dominant factor in the 1988 election campaign — not in the old, bad way, not even with the violence that now dominates Chicago and inner-city politics in the North.

But the black vote is crucial to the campaign of the Rev. Jesse Jackson, the charismatic Southern preacher and one-time assistant to Martin Luther King. Blacks account for a quarter of Alabama's electorate. More are likely to vote than ever before, almost all for Mr. Jackson.

Two results follow: virtually no whites will support Mr. Jackson on March 8, when the 14 Southern and border states hold their unprecedented regional primary; and virtually no other Democrat will pick up any black votes.

Unlike the situation in Iowa, where he hopes to win a sizeable chunk of the white farmers' vote, Mr. Jackson will have to rely in the South on a bloc vote based on race. But with disgruntled whites defecting to the Republicans, the bloc vote

may be enough to make him the Democratic victor.

Four years ago the situation was less polarized. Mr. Jackson had not built up his organization, and Mr. Walter Mondale, the leading Democratic candidate, had a long civil rights record. Many black community leaders, including Dr. Joe Reed, assistant head of the state's teachers union, believed support for Mr. Jackson would weaken black influence on the man who was clearly going to get the nomination. Alone in the South, Alabama's blacks did not endorse him.

That has now changed. But Dr. Reed is under no illusions. Mr. Jackson, he predicted, even if he carried the South, would not win the eventual Democratic nomination, "and that is not because he is not qualified." Race still drew a line he could not cross. But this time blacks did not consider Mr. Jackson's candidacy a wasted vote. "Jesse's done a good job in raising issues for others to follow," Dr. Reed said.

He had already made the notion of a black Vice-President possible, raising hopes — admittedly distant — of a black President one day.

But though race is still a factor in the South, it is no longer an issue.

Black demands differ little from those of whites, especially poor whites: jobs, opportunity, better schooling in states with some of the lowest spending and highest drop-out rates in America ("Thank God for Mississippi," the Alabama cynics say. "We can always point to one state worse off"). Dr. Reed sees employment as the key to all black advancement, and wants the Democratic nominee to guarantee a job to everyone. In his view, all other issues of concern to blacks — education, housing, crime, welfare — are linked to employment.

For Alabama whites, the state's economic future is also of concern. But this is not the central issue for the only other Democrat with Southern hopes — Senator Albert Gore, the young and telegenic scion of a famous Tennessee political family. For him, Alabama offers a chance to mobilize the conservative Democrat vote — the so-called "yellow dog vote" after the famous dictum that Southerners would sooner vote for a yellow dog than a Republican. The Jackson candidacy

and the perceived liberalism of all the other Democrats have pushed him sharply to the right on defence and foreign policy, issues that matter to a generally conservative and patriotic white South.

For the Republicans, the black vote can be ignored. For them, Bible-belt evangelism rather than race is the complicating factor. Republicans are hoping to build on the first appointment of a Republican governor in 100 years — an upset victory resulting from a split in the Democratic camp — to break the mould and establish themselves at local level. But it will be an uphill task.

For almost all Alabamians the contest in March still seems far away. More passion is expended on local tax reform, or on Alabama's efforts to make up lost ground and join in the prosperity of neighbours such as Georgia and Tennessee.

Widespread apathy still greets national politics, and the two party headquarters fear that the turnout could be as low as 20 per cent. For Mr. Gore and Mr. Jackson, frequent campaign visitors, every vote matters.

Summit role fails to help Bush stem Dole's rise

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Vice-President George Bush is continuing to lose his lead in the battle for the Republican presidential nomination, a new opinion poll published yesterday suggests.

Even his high-profile appearances with Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev during the superpower summit have not stopped the slide.

Senator Robert Dole, the Republican leader of the Senate, now has 35 per cent support among registered Republicans, compared with 44 per cent for Mr. Bush, according to the *Washington Post-ABC* news poll. The Vice-President's lead in the polls has been cut by half in recent months.

Other Republican contenders are well behind. Mr. Jack Kemp has 6 per cent, Mr. Pat Robertson 4 per cent, General Alexander Haig 4 per cent, and Mr. Pierre du Pont 3 per cent. The poll shows that, in general, voters trust the Democrats over the Republicans by 49 to 39 per cent.

Among the Democratic contenders, Mr. Gary Hart leads the field with 30 per cent support among registered party members, followed by the Rev. Jesse Jackson with 20 per cent. Then comes Governor Michael Dukakis, of Massachusetts, with 15 per cent and Senator Paul Simon with 8 per cent. Senator Albert Gore has 5 per cent. Representative Richard Gephardt, and Mr. Bruce Babbitt have 2 per cent apiece.

Because of Mr. Hart's re-

entry into the race, some of the weaker Democrats have decided to focus their campaigns on the Iowa caucuses on February 8, the first contest of the 1988 presidential race. A good showing there would boost their chances in the New Hampshire primary eight days later, where Mr. Hart is stronger.

Most political analysts believe that the New Hampshire contest will be essentially between Mr. Hart and Mr. Dukakis, both of whom are well known in the state, although polls in recent days show Mr. Hart running second. Mr. Hart's re-entry into the presidential contest received the approval of 52 per cent of voters in the poll, and the disapproval of 44 per cent.

● **NEW YORK:** An opinion poll by *Newsweek* magazine suggests that Americans are divided on whether Mr. Hart was wise to rejoin the Democratic presidential race (Reuters reports). But 70 per cent say that his relationship with the model, Miss Donna Rice, would be an important factor in deciding to vote for him.

Forty-nine per cent of the 707 Americans surveyed on Thursday and Friday thought Mr. Hart's comeback, after his relationship with a model led to him pulling out, was courageous, while 41 per cent considered it unwise, the poll showed. If a presidential election were held now, 52 per cent said they would vote for Mr. Bush, while 37 per cent said they would back Mr. Hart.



University students preparing petrol bombs in Kwangju, South Korea, yesterday as protests continued against alleged vote-rigging in last week's election. The violence of the protests, however, has provoked widespread public distaste.

Poll unrest fails to slow Seoul reform

From Gavin Bell
Seoul

The ruling Democratic Justice Party in South Korea is moving ahead briskly with plans to hold parliamentary elections early next year, despite simmering controversy over its presidential election victory last week.

DJP officials said yesterday that they were scheduling the poll for around February 10, two weeks before Mr. Roh Tae Woo is due to succeed President Chun. They have been encouraged by clear signs that Mr. Kim Young Sam and Mr. Kim Dae Jung, the defeated opposition leaders, have failed to attract popular support for their efforts to have Mr. Roh's election declared invalid.

Violent clashes between student and party militants and riot police last week were viewed with distaste by the majority of opposition sup-

porters. Antipathy against the two Kims is growing, as they are held largely to blame for their defeat by splitting the opposition vote.

Together, they polled more than 12 million votes, compared with eight million for Mr. Roh, but roughly equal division in their support gave the DJP leader a winning margin of almost two million.

The *Korea Herald* said in its editorial: "By putting up more than one candidate as a result of factionalism and personal ambition, the opposition camp invited its own defeat. Making further ad hoc about vote-trading allegations will result only in diminishing popular sympathy."

Younger members of the opposition in the National Assembly are demanding that the Kims be called to account for their conduct. They are soliciting support for a reform

movement, and are likely to create a new party or an alliance to challenge their traditional leaders.

A realignment of opposition

Seoul (AP) — Hundreds of South Korean students harried firebombs yesterday as they stormed police stations and battled with riot police in the southern city of Kwangju. It was the fourth day of protests against what the demonstrators dubbed "invalid" presidential elections — a reference to widespread allegations of voting frauds and malpractice in last Wednesday's poll. There were also minor skirmishes in Seoul.

forces seems inevitable if they are to mount a serious challenge to the DJP in the parliamentary poll. There is little enthusiasm in South Korea for a divided executive, and some opposition voters may

be tempted to support the ruling party for the sake of stability and strong government. But the message does not yet appear to have reached the two Kims. Both are refusing steadfastly to participate in negotiations to revise the parliamentary election law, aimed at ensuring fairer representation.

The Remuneration Democratic Party of Mr. Kim Young Sam did apologize for failing to field a single candidate — but promptly put the blame on Mr. Kim Dae Jung's Party for Peace and Democracy.

Meanwhile, Mr. Roh is planning sweeping changes in his party ranks to prepare for civilian rule. Up to half of the old-guard loyalists in the Assembly will not be re-nominated for the February elections and more people without military backgrounds are expected to be appointed to party and government posts.

Contra aid breakthrough

Pact averts US budget crisis

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Congress and the White House worked on a tentative agreement yesterday for funding the Nicaraguan Contras and ending a budget stalemate in time to stop the United States Government shutting down today. Technically, the Government ran out of money at the weekend.

Shortly before midnight on Saturday, Mr. Jim Wright, the Democratic Speaker of the House of Representatives, said an agreement in principle had been reached between congressional leaders and White House officials to give \$8.1 million (\$4.4 million in non-military aid to the Contras.

President Reagan had threatened to veto a \$600-billion spending Bill now before Congress if it did not contain aid for the rebel army, which is in danger of falling apart for want of food, medicine and clothing. He said that he was ready to cancel his holiday and force Congress to stay in session over Christmas and the New Year until the issue was settled.

He repeated his veto threat

in his weekend radio address, and cited new evidence of a planned military build-up in Nicaragua as proof of the Sandinista Government's preparations for "military dominance of the entire region".

The pending Bill funds most government activities until October. Without it, government operations would have come to a halt today with the exception of defence and law enforcement. Federal



Mr. Jim Wright: Announced the Contra aid compromise.

workers were told last week to be prepared to report for work today and spend the morning closing down operations before going home.

The breakthrough will keep the Contras alive for another month or two. "We have reached agreement in principle. We want to see how it looks on paper," Senator Warren Rudman, a Republican from New Hampshire, said as he and other exhausted Congressmen left Saturday's bargaining session.

The White House team included Mr. James Baker, the Treasury Secretary, Mr. Howard Baker, the White House Chief of Staff, and Lieutenant General Colin Powell, the National Security Adviser. Technically the Government ran out of money at 12.01 am on Saturday when a stop-gap spending Bill expired, but the impact was not felt because it was a weekend.

The House of Representatives version of the main spending Bill eliminated all aid to the rebels, while the Senate version provided \$9 million in non-military assis-

tance plus \$6 million to transport supplies to the fighters.

The two versions, which were being reconciled when White House and congressional leaders resumed negotiations yesterday afternoon, would implement an agreement between the White House and Congress for tax increases and spending cuts to reduce the budget deficit by \$30 billion in the current fiscal year, which began on October 1, and by \$46 billion next year. The budget deficit is expected to reach \$180 billion in 1988.

Under the tentative accord on Contra funding, the rebels would receive money for the first 12 days of January. Then they would then be suspended for one week to see whether peace talks between the Sandinistas and the rebels could bring about a ceasefire.

If, in President Reagan's opinion, the peace talks were not successful, the aid would resume until February 4, when it would take a vote of both Houses of Congress for it to continue for the rest of the month.

More than 200 blacks have died this year, most of them in the past few months, in a savage struggle for control of the black townships around Pietermaritzburg between the United Democratic Front (UDF), an alliance of militant anti-apartheid groups, and the more conservative Inkatha organization.

The strength of Inkatha, led by Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, derives from the predominantly Zulu population of Natal, while the UDF is a national movement drawing support from all race groups, although mainly from blacks, and is aligned politically with the outlawed African National Congress (ANC).

In the main address to the eighth annual congress of the Azanian People's Organization (Azapo) in Soweto at the weekend, the Azapo president, Mr. Nkosi Mola, poured scorn on the ANC and the

UDF for seeking the support of white liberals. Azapo is the direct descendant of the banned Black People's Convention of the late Steve Biko, the founding father of black consciousness, who was bludgeoned to death by interrogators in a police cell in 1977.

It appears to have much less support than the UDF-ANC, but is still a force to be reckoned with.

Black consciousness ideologues argue that blacks must achieve liberation by their own efforts, and that if they look to white liberals for assistance they merely perpetuate their own subservience.

Black and white, they maintain, can live together as equals only in a post-apartheid, socialist South Africa.

Mr. Mola criticized the meeting in Dakar, Senegal, earlier this year between exiled ANC leaders and a group of mainly Afrikaner whites, led by Dr. Frederik van Zyl Slabbert, the former leader of the white parliamentary Opposition.

"All the Dakar conference has done is to sanction and endorse white liberalism, its

rabid opposition to socialist forces notwithstanding," Mr. Mola told the congress delegates.

He is a former professional football player who spent several years in the maximum security prison on Robben Island for sabotage.

Mr. Mola also singled out two white liberal groups for attack: the National Democratic Movement, led by Mr. Wynand Malan, a former member of President Botha's ruling National Party, and the Five Freedoms Forum, a group of white lawyers, academics, journalists and civil rights workers.

"Their role is to secure a place for liberalism in a future state and to agitate for the protection of minority rights," he maintained.

That could only mean the protection of white people's standard of living, lifestyle and property.

"No revolutionary activist who has the interest of the oppressed masses languishing in abject poverty at heart will ever agree with this arrangement," Mr. Mola said.

● **Servicemen held:** Three white national servicemen



Chief Buthelezi: Power base among the Zulus of Natal.



Steve Biko: His followers a force to be reckoned with.

have been arrested on suspicion of spying, it was disclosed at the weekend.

They were detained only hours before they were due to be discharged from the Army at the end of their two years' compulsory military service.

The three are university graduates who were stationed at the Western Province Command Headquarters in Cape Town Castle, where they reportedly worked in an intelligence section.

Informed sources identified one as Peter Pluddeeman, the son of Professor Ulrich Pluddeeman, the head of the German Department at the University of the Western Cape.

He is a pacifist and was serving in the Army in a non-combatant capacity after refusing to carry firearms or serve with units in black townships.

A police spokesman confirmed the arrests, and said that an investigation was under way into alleged contraventions of the South African Defence Act.

A report in the Johannesburg *Sunday Times* said the men were believed to have passed on classified information.

According to the paper, Mr. Pluddeeman was summoned by a superior officer a few months ago and asked to explain his presence at a meeting of the End Conscription Campaign, an organization run by young white South Africans opposed to compulsory military service in their country.

Informed sources in Cape Town suggested yesterday that the three national servicemen might have got hold of files relating to South African Army schemes for countering and discrediting the anti-conscription campaign.

Nicaragua mediator threatens to quit

From Alan Tomlinson, Miami

Having agreed a 48-hour Christmas truce, the Nicaraguan Government and the Contra rebels were due to resume their mediated ceasefire talks in Santo Domingo today.

But with no prospect in sight of a breakthrough, Cardinal Obando y Bravo, the Nicaraguan Primate, has threatened to resign as intermediary unless both sides show greater flexibility. The point he is likely to insist upon most firmly is that the ruling Sandinistas should drop their refusal to meet the rebels.

The second round of talks

was postponed by the Government a week ago when the Cardinal announced that direct talks on technical arrangements for a truce had been agreed.

The delay allowed the Sandinistas time to assemble a three-man team of non-Nicaraguans to attend the meeting in their behalf, a move that skirts the impasse. The issue has been the cornerstone of the Nicaraguan position since the guerrilla war began seven years ago.

The Government maintains that a lasting peace can only be achieved through a strate-

gic agreement with the United States, which finances the Contras.

This view appeared to be echoed at the weekend by the author of a global peace plan for Central America, of which the Nicaraguan talks are a part. President Arias of Costa Rica, who won this year's Nobel Peace Prize for his initiative, said: "Without taking away from the countries which are involved in the conflict, I think those who should really be holding the dialogue are the superpowers."

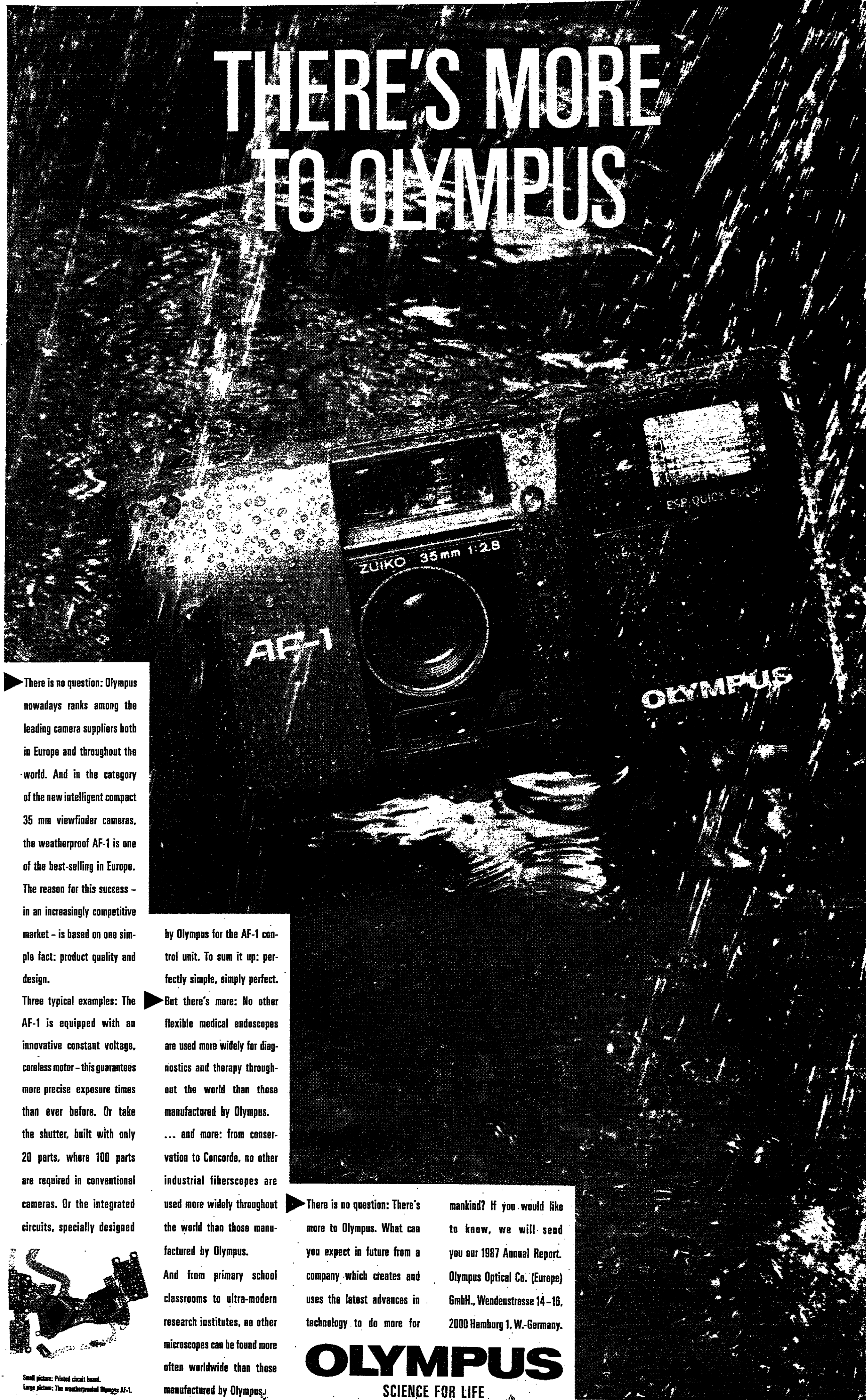
He said he could urge Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, the

Soviet leader, and President Castro of Cuba to end their support for guerrilla movements in the region, as he has already done with President Reagan.

● **MANAGUA:** A Sandinista leader claimed at the weekend that opposition parties were banding together to overthrow the Government (AFP reports). Señor Bayardo Arce alluded to the 1973 coup in Chile and Nicaragua's 14 legal political parties were taking advantage of Managua's recent moves to comply with the Central American peace plan.

If Herr Genscher, for all his skill, fails in this dual task, the February summit seems bound to fail, and the problems will then pile up for showdown at the Hanover summit in June, at the end of the West German presidency.

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Small picture: Printed circuit board.
Large picture: The weatherproof Olympus AF-1.

سكا من الامل

ALL MERCHANDISE IS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. SOME LINES ARE AVAILABLE AT LARGER BRANCHES ONLY.

SPECTRUM

Questions of life and death

At the eye of the storm over NHS funding, doctors are being forced to choose who will live and who will die. Brian James and Lee Rodwell report on what has become a game of chance

It could be a question from one of those new-style board games so popular this Christmas: "If you had one place left in your lifeboat and could decide to save the life either of a 17-year-old girl or a 34-year-old mother of two children, who would you choose?"

This real-life decision, with its real-death consequence, was made by a specialist in a renal dialysis unit of a British hospital; such appalling choices are forced routinely upon the clinicians working under stress in our overstretched health system. And that is not a game that even gods lightly play.

A year of noisy debate on the creaking state of the National Health Service has risen to new peaks of tumult in the past few days, with the Government finding a little more money to slow the rate of ward closures and operation postponements, and the Prince of Wales sending for the chief of his local health authority to determine facts.

His Royal Highness's venture into this minefield reflects the confusion of many. For there are lies, damned lies and National Health statistics. We are "spending more than ever in our history on the NHS, here are the figures" ... Yet "every hospital in the land is shutting wards and cancelling operations, here are the lists" ... We have "the biggest NHS in the world, the largest employer in Europe" ... Yet every European neighbour "spends more on its health" ... The biggest single problem is "a shortage of trained nurses" ... Yet Britain has "more nurses per capita than any similarly developed nation".

The debate, often ideologically-based and therefore more sterile than the theatres themselves, will rumble on. Meanwhile, doctors will continue to play a game of chance, with our sick as unknowing pawns who are moved to places of safety - or wiped from the board for ever - without ever knowing the rules.

Because there are virtually none. According to a survey carried out by *The Times*, whether when desperately sick you live or you die - or, at the very least, whether the affliction that gives you pain and disability is cured now or much, much later - will

probably depend on a number of factors.

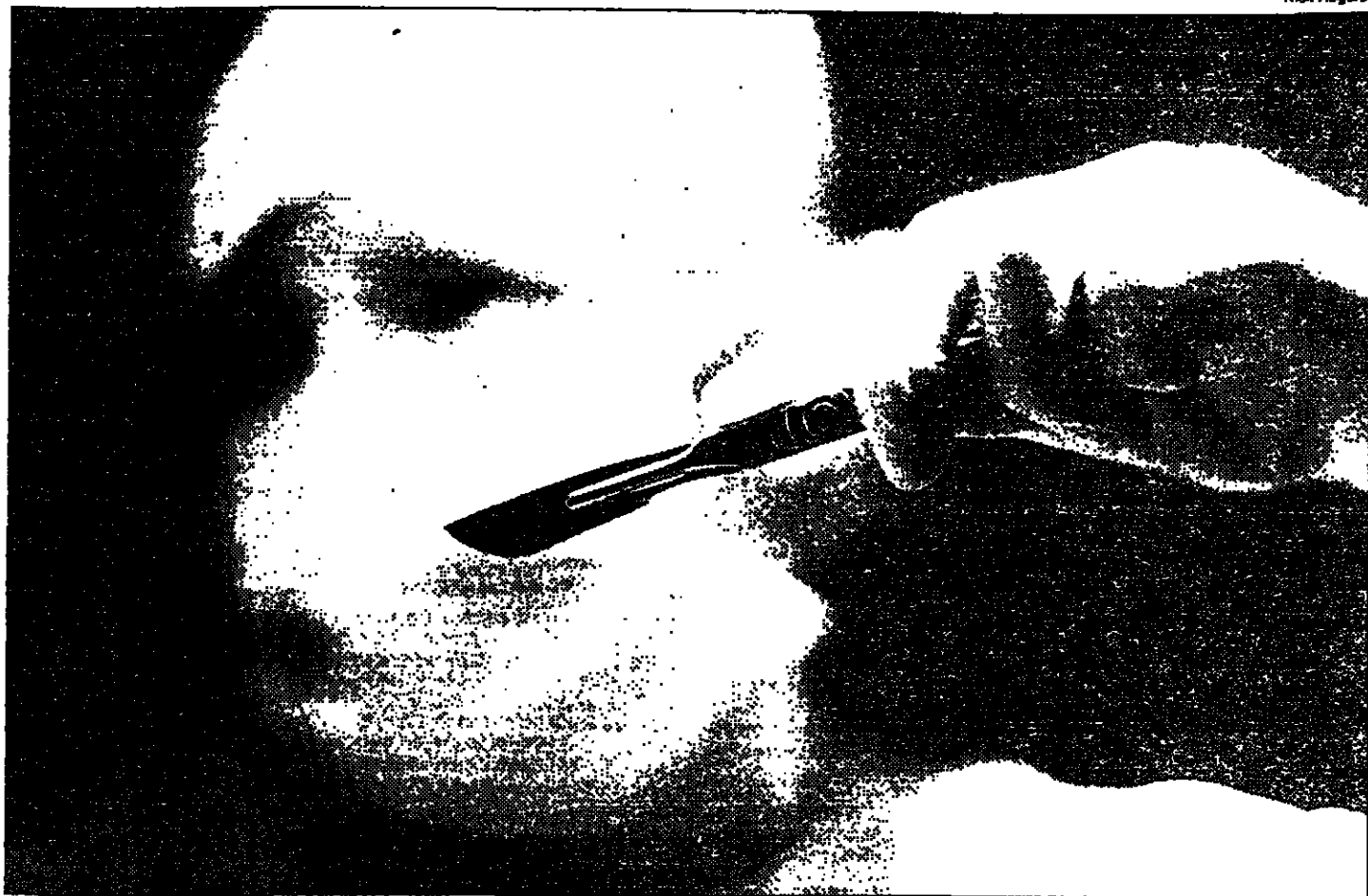
They include where you live (six out of 10 on the list wait more than a year for hernia operations in Twickenham, while in the neighbouring East Surrey district nobody has waited as long as a year), how persistent your GP is (a doctor who will nag on your behalf could be a life-saver), your social circumstances (the housewife who is prepared to lay stoically a-bed will seldom get priority when a breadwinner needs similar treatment), your blood group (if you are marked for a transplant) and even, often, your lifestyle (smokers and the determinedly fat are often relegated in favour of those likely to get the most from an extended life).

Were these not imponderables enough, the personal objectives and subjective whims of the specialists are ultimately conclusive. What weighs most heavily on the minds of those who know of the 17-year-old left to die in that kidney unit was the belief that somewhere else in Britain that day another unit could well have been doggedly saving the life of an elderly vagrant with nowhere to go and perhaps little wish to live.

It is these dislocations of need and response that make Professor Alan Maynard, director of the Centre for Health Education at the University of York, insist that there should be some national system of waiting lists priorities, and that such a system should be based on a carefully calculated equation of known costs and actuarial assessment about the length and quality of the patient's remaining life.

"At present there is no national policy and that's anarchy," he says. "We should be looking at the potential benefits. Most of these people aren't going to die, so what you want is some measure of outcome. You have to ask, what does it cost and what is the benefit in terms of duration of life, quality of life, reduction of disability? You may then decide to treat someone of 20 rather than someone of 65 or the other way around. But you want an objective outcome measurement. At the moment we haven't got that."

In March this year 688,000 people in England alone were



Hospital cuts: there are lies, damned lies and National Health statistics, but whether you live or die depends on a number of crucial factors

waiting for in-patient hospital treatment; of these, 162,000 had been waiting for more than a year.

Who decides which cases get priority? Doctors are given no formal training in clinical management, yet it is the doctors - in general, either the consultant or a senior member of his staff - who have to work out their own system. No national guidelines exist.

Hugh Dudley, a gastroenterologist and professor of surgery at St Mary's, Paddington, admits: "To a certain extent it's arbitrary. It's a balancing act. The bulk of the waiting lists is made up of non-emergency cases. Our elective surgery list is divided up into three categories: urgent, soon and routine. The life threatening ones - like cancer - are urgent. Then you take the ones which may turn from non life-threatening into life-threatening - things like a complicated hernia."

"There may also be social or occupational factors. You may have an elderly man, living alone, who is unable to cope. Or a man who is not able to work but has a mortgage and hire purchase commitments and a wife and two

children to support. Anyone worth his salt would not fail to ask a patient about this sort of thing."

Dudley concedes that persistent GPs can make a difference. "A good GP will nag somebody like me in the best interests of his patient. GPs have an important role in alerting us to the social circumstances of the case."

Heart surgeon Terence English generally has 30 or more patients waiting for heart transplants to be carried out at Papworth Hospital. "When patients are referred to me I'm always perfectly frank about the way the system works," he says. "When they are accepted their name goes on the bottom of the list and, all things being equal, they will be given a transplant when they get to the top of their particular blood group. However, if I have another patient who is very ill I might decide to give the heart to him on medical grounds, and they accept this."

But does he also take into account other factors - such as whether the patient is going to lead a healthy lifestyle? "Those who have been drinking heavily or smoking have stopped or I couldn't take them on for transplants. With other patients you do

tell them that there's not much point in doing a bypass graft if they will still be smoking. Obesity is as big a problem."

Lilian Meikle is the supervisor in the orthopaedic department of Glasgow's Royal Infirmary. Although the waiting time there for a hip replacement operation is only six to eight weeks (but it can be as long as a year in Gloucester), patients requiring surgery to their hands may have to wait for as long as two years.

"We have only one consultant and with hands you get a lot of

emergencies," she says. "So if the problem is something a person can live with, we keep them on the list until we can fit them in. We are not going to make an 80-year-old wait two years and if a younger person's livelihood depended on an operation we'd take that into consideration. If GPs phone us, we try to do something about it."

Elizabeth Ward, president of the British Kidney Patient Association, says that there are about 3,760 kidney patients currently on dialysis waiting for kidney transplants. There is, however, no wait-

ON THE BILL

Comparative costs of treatment

In-hospital haemodialysis	£15,000
Heart transplant	£15,000
Coronary bypass	£5,000
Kidney transplant	£7-8,000*
Total hip replacement	£3,300
Cataract	£1,000

* plus £3,000 per annum after first year

ing list for dialysis - once dialysis is necessary, patients quickly die unless the treatment is forthcoming.

She says: "About 1,500 British people die every year because they are denied dialysis. I know a Jersey patient who was originally told at 66 that because of shortages there was no way a man of his age was going to be given dialysis. Luckily his daughter was a nurse and she fought on his behalf. He is now 72 and enjoying his grandchildren and his retirement."

Mrs Ward believes doctors should refuse to make choices. "With dialysis, for instance, they usually have a week when they know it is going to be necessary. If I were the consultant I would tell the regional health authority that I had two patients needing dialysis, but only one facility. I'd ask them to come down and make the choice as to who would live and who would die. Doctors have taken this burden on their shoulders and I think it's wrong and dangerous. They shouldn't be doing it. It's not their job."

There is clearly an argument for saying that doctors should not have to make such choices. There is less for claiming the decisions should be left to hapless officials with no grasp of the medicine involved, and not much more control over the money needed.

For these are decisions the entire nation must take. It may even be that we shall one day have to decide that babies born with holes in their hearts are too costly to keep alive. It may become equally and painfully plain that only those who have themselves saved up for the operation can expect to have hips replaced beyond a certain age. Alternatively we may come to agree that no matter what the cost, Britain will be a land where no single life will ever be cut short by an hour while we have the science to preserve it.

But the debate cannot even usefully begin until, as Professor Maynard says, we have done the sums and sifted the facts from the posturing that makes the NHS a political board game with losers who actually bleed. And die.

IN THE WAITING ROOM

In-patient waiting lists (to the end of September). Figures in brackets indicate those waiting a year or more

	Newcastle	Birmingham Central	Peterborough
General surgery	1,092 (34)	1,033 (315)	593 (86)
Urology	520 (53)	423 (230)	637 (162)
Orthopaedics	848 (183)	736 (183)	851 (176)
Ear, nose and throat	577 (75)	196 (7)	1,144 (214)
Ophthalmology	1,582 (329)	N/a	409 (77)
Oral surgery	578 (126)	191 (63)	502 (85)
Plastic surgery	1,806 (918)	N/a	N/a
Cardiac	357 (110)	287 (57)	N/a
Neurology	150 (4)	331 (139)	N/a

Source: district health authorities

N/a: not applicable/available

Fighting the good fight

Father Sergio, a small town priest who runs a parish on the outskirts of Mexico City, proudly acknowledges he leads a schizophrenic life. Several nights a week the 42-year-old man of the cloth throws off his cassock, covers his face with a red and gold mask and dons a tightly-fitting stretch suit as he locks arms with a muscled partner in a wrestling match.

The transformation from Father Sergio to Brother Thunderstorm ("Ray Tormenta"), as he is known in wrestling circles, is far from a hobby. His life in the ring has evolved into an obsession to keep afloat the orphanage he single-handedly organized some 12 years ago.

"Look, all my life I saw that drug addiction, prostitution and delinquency were ruining children. They got there for lack of just love, affection and understanding. I decided that if I couldn't solve the problem, at least I could help alleviate it," says the priest as he shows his hands, slightly deformed from years of throws, flips and punches.

Since he opened his orphanage, some 1,000 children have knocked on his door. The inspiration to train as a wrestler to support the orphanage was based on a 1960s Mexican film of a priest who followed the same route. The streets are no stranger to Father Sergio. Before his religious conversion, his mother had almost given

Father Sergio is a man with a mission: to keep his orphanage running by wrestling



Masked missionary: Father Sergio as Brother Thunderstorm

up hope for the youth who idled away the hours in roadside bars with a street gang.

The 89 children - 79 boys and 10 girls - who live with Father Sergio in the Mexican town of Xometla range from ages one to 18. Half of them are orphans and abandoned street kids. The rest are children of prostitutes who have been handed over the hope that the priest can provide them with a better future.

Cramped in three run-down, dimly lit rooms attached to the main church, the "cubs" as they call themselves, follow a disciplined schedule. At 5.30 every morning, mattresses are dragged out of rooms to air in the sunlight, and the other children hover over the younger ones to ensure they manage a turn in the one communal bathroom. After breakfast they are off to school. Between 2pm and 3pm, while some lunch, others tidy up their few possessions. Two hours of mandatory study are followed by a recreation period. They eat dinner at 6.30pm, and watch television before bedtime, except when mass is conducted.

Two women, hired by Father Sergio, are in charge of the cooking, scrubbing and washing. But the older boys and girls attend to the younger cubs in the daily ritual of study, bathing and recreation.

Asked what career they want to pursue, a row of the boys exchange mischievous glances and in unison inflate their chests: "We want to follow in the footsteps of Brother Thunderstorm, the wrestler," whom they affectionately refer to as "boss", "father", or "chicharro" (green pea), an apt description

of the way his stocky body bulges in a wrestling suit.

Disputes among the cubs are handled in a somewhat irreverent fashion. "Father puts gloves on us, takes us to the ring in the adjoining courtyard, and we cool down," says José Antonio, aged 14, better known as Snake.

José Antonio, appointed by the priest as his second in command, is from a broken home. He says he first came to the priest nine years ago after his father, in a fit of drunken rage, threatened to burn the family with kerosene. "If it weren't for the Father I would probably be out with the gang stealing or doing drugs. Instead, I go to school. I might not have everything, but there is nothing that I lack here."

Father Sergio does not believe that "Brother Thunderstorm" conflicts with his religious duties. "Wrestling is a sport, while being a priest is a selfless act. Wrestling is work. Like any father I have a profession to support my children." Some £16 per day, scraped together from donations and his wrestling, keeps his orphanage running.

"At first people of the community did not believe their pastor was a wrestler. But now, the community brings donations of everything from beans and tortillas to clothes for the orphanage," he says. This was not always the case. Over the past 12 years, Father Sergio has packed his bags at least six times after receiving a chilly reception from communities who feared his orphanage would bring no good.

Now, however, parishioners are helping Father Sergio secure a parcel of land that can be converted into his dream of a city for unprotected children, complete with sporting facilities. Father Sergio believes that engaging youth in sports keeps them off the streets and out of trouble.

"If I do this it's because I am a Mexican and a priest," he says. "When I die, God will surely say: 'As a priest, Sergio, you made a lot of mistakes, but because you took in so many children I'll give you a chance to pass through heaven's gates.'"

Madeline Eisner

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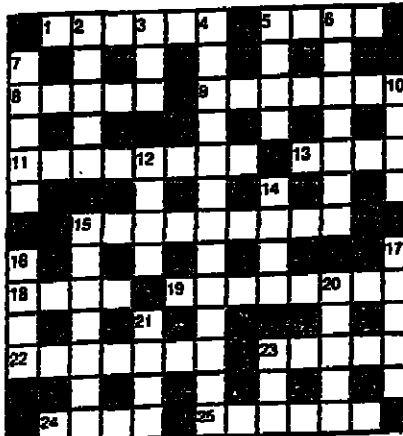
CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1444

ACROSS

- 1 Anti-aircraft fire (3-3)
- 5 Small bay (4)
- 8 Cheap wine (5)
- 9 On no side (7)
- 11 Wall growing shrub (8)
- 13 Manner (4)
- 15 Eastern alms (9)
- 18 Invalid (4)
- 19 Kampuchea (8)
- 22 Dry vigorously (3,4)
- 23 Advertising type (5)
- 24 Wheel ring (4)
- 25 Turkish capital (6)

DOWN

- 2 Chew noisily (5)
- 3 Razorbill (3)
- 4 First Zambian president (7,8)
- 5 Crucial point (4)
- 6 Venerer (7)
- 7 Romp (5)
- 10 Connection (4)



- 12 Resembling (4)
- 14 Pavement edge (4)
- 15 Hotel page (7)
- 16 Wood knot (4)
- 17 Shrewd (5)
- 20 Object (5)
- 21 Portland (4)
- 23 Request (3)



THE TIMES DIARY

Clerical vacancy

The Crown Appointments Commission, which recommends candidates for bishoprics, has to decide early in the new year how to replace Dr Gareth Bennett, author of the controversial *Crockford's* preface. Dr Bennett's five-year term on the commission started last September, and standing orders allow that if a vacancy arises within 12 months of an election then the place may be filled after a recount of the original ballot. This method would mean that Dr Bennett's first preference votes would be redistributed among those who were second preference candidates to him. Churchmen reckon this procedure could produce an interesting result as the likely beneficiaries are every bit as Anglo-Catholic as Bennett and supported him. They include Canon George Austin of Watford and Canon Brian Brindley of Reading. A third candidate, Canon Peter Boulton of Woking, is considered the most acceptable to Archbishop Runcie and Habgood. The alternative method for the Synod's standing committee, which will decide on January 7, is to hold a new election during the General Synod in February and draw in additional candidates.

Some senior churchmen are keen that Dr Bennett's preface should be published separately. At £27.50 for *Crockford's*, many Anglicans who want to read it may be prevented by cost.

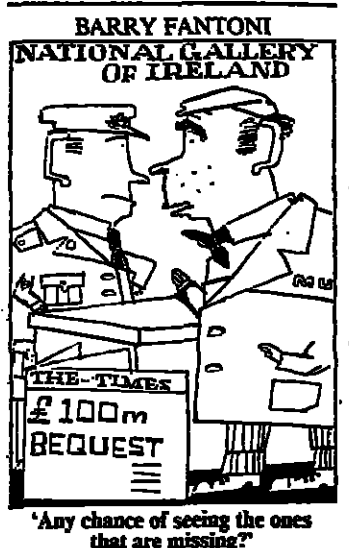
Spies wanted

After observing the goings-on in the *Spycatcher* saga, the Australian secret service has clearly decided that openness is the best policy. The Security Intelligence Organisation has just launched a national advertising campaign to recruit 70 new officers. According to Alan Wrigley, agency director, the idea is to shed the old image of secrecy, improve efficiency and project professionalism to attract the correct calibre of candidate. In case Peter Wright is moved to apply, he should note that ASIO says it is looking for educated Australian citizens with an ability to interact with a diverse range of people aged between 22 and 35.

East Africa is the place to be in January, for politicians at any rate. As the PM leaves for Kenya early on January 4, she will find David Steel already there but staying in rather different style. The Liberal leader's 10-day visit, which will take him into the bush, is under the auspices of Africa Now, a charity which supplies water to arid districts.

Sin and spin

Choir boys, who hear more sermons than most of us, are being offered a prize for the most original way of passing the time. One of the first entries sent to *Choir Schools Today*, the annual journal of the Choir Schools' Association, is from Ben Nicholas, a chorister at Lichfield Cathedral and a keen cricketer. He picks two teams — "the Chapter All-Stars and the Choir Casuals, for instance" — and slips a small scorebook into his cassock. One run is scored each time the preacher says "and", two for "when", three for "God", four for "Lichfield" and six for any mention of the choir. A batsman is out when the preacher catches his face or hair or adjusts his glasses. A match can take several weeks, Ben says.



Any chance of seeing the ones that are missing?

Dolly mixtures

American fads are at least adaptable. Since the demise of Ollie's and the ascent of Gorbypneumonia, two San Francisco entrepreneurs, John and Shana Hudson, are to switch heads and change the clothes on \$30,000 worth of Oliver North dolls they have been unable to sell. The replacement 12in-high \$19.95 Mikhail Gorbachev doll will come complete with Italian designed suit and birthmark. According to a report in *USA Today*, the idea is "to give children the chance to play with world leaders instead of with characters like Rambo".

A new clue to how long Mrs Thatcher intends to go on. She has demanded an explanation from a Whitehall department which rejected her favoured candidate for a top public appointment on the grounds of age. "Exactly what's so old about 72?" she demanded. Mrs T is 62.

PHS

It is doubtful whether the poorer and more vulnerable members of society who used legal aid last year in more than two million cases realize what the impact of the government's Legal Aid Bill will be. It is likely to accelerate the decline of one of our legal system's finest assets, an aid scheme that has been the model for many countries, inside and outside the Commonwealth.

Legal aid is two years younger than the National Health Service but last year cost the taxpayer less than £400 million, while its elder sibling spent 35 times as much on health provision. Legal aid spending ought to be much higher too.

It would be higher if it paid for representation in employment, social security and immigration cases before tribunals set up to allow citizens to enforce rights granted by Parliament. It would be higher if the administration had not been pared to the bone by government funding restrictions so that a nine-month wait for a legal aid certificate is not unusual. It would be higher if lawyers did not give their time virtually for nothing to serve on the committees which administer the system. It would be higher if lawyers were paid promptly and paid proper fees for taking on legal aid cases.

The bill will not cure any of this. Instead it gives power to take out of the scheme other areas of work where public need is greatest. One of these is advice on housing matters. Housing law is complex and legal help is usually necessary in rent disputes, claims for repairs to be carried out and homelessness. In the future it is likely that help will not be available on legal aid from a solicitor. Likewise, the wisdom of making a will is urged upon all of us, however simple our affairs, but legal aid will not generally be available to help the elderly in this task.

This is a two-class service

Justice falters in the retreat from legal aid

by Andrew Lockley

indeed. But worse is to come. Some firms of solicitors, fed up with under-funded administration and with running the service at a loss, have closed their doors on legally aided clients. The Law Society has identified some 35 such firms so far, but without doubt there are more, and without doubt they are increasing. Rates of pay have not kept pace with the cost of providing the service.

In London, firms whose criminal legal aid caseload constituted more than 60 per cent of their work began to run at a loss in 1985, and this trend has continued. The bill's provisions, by changing the basis on which solicitors' fees are calculated, make it possible that a similar fate will befall those firms which offer a service to clients in family disputes, accident cases and all the day-to-day problems which require legal advice.

So what alternative does the government have up its sleeve? One project not on its mind is to replace private practice solicitors with a national service of salaried lawyers in the employ of the state; the Crown Prosecution Service's problems have put that pipe dream to sleep.

Nor does the bill even hold out the prospect of funding for a

proper national network of law centres and advice agencies, which is long overdue. All the government is suggesting are cash-limited grants to under-funded and hard-pressed citizens' advice bureaux and other advice agencies to take on the cases which the bill will prevent solicitors from conducting on legal aid.

The advice agencies themselves, far from welcoming the extra cash, recognize a Trojan Horse when they see one. They know that once they accept the government's cash, they have given the government the means of restricting the availability of the vital legal advice which their clients desperately need. The Treasury's cash limits will prevent them helping all those who at present can see a high-street solicitor on legal aid. MPs of all parties know from their postbags and advice surgeries how complex the legal problems of individuals can be.

Carrying out the government's work will be the task of a new Legal Aid Board. This government is not supposed to like quangos, but that is what it is. It is quasi-autonomous, but the Lord Chancellor can issue directions, circulate guidance and bring regulations relating to the board before Parliament. The bill gives

the government 32 (on my count) different powers in relation to the board's activities. Whatever else it is, the board will therefore not be independent of government.

The members of the board have not yet been appointed and we wait to see whether, as the Solicitor-General said recently, they will "not be the type who will readily allow their independence to be compromised". But with the government still controlling the purse-strings, all the sturdy independence in the world will avail the board little. And it looks as if the new board's members will be blamed for the government's failings in the provision of adequate resources, and the unpleasant decisions which will have to follow.

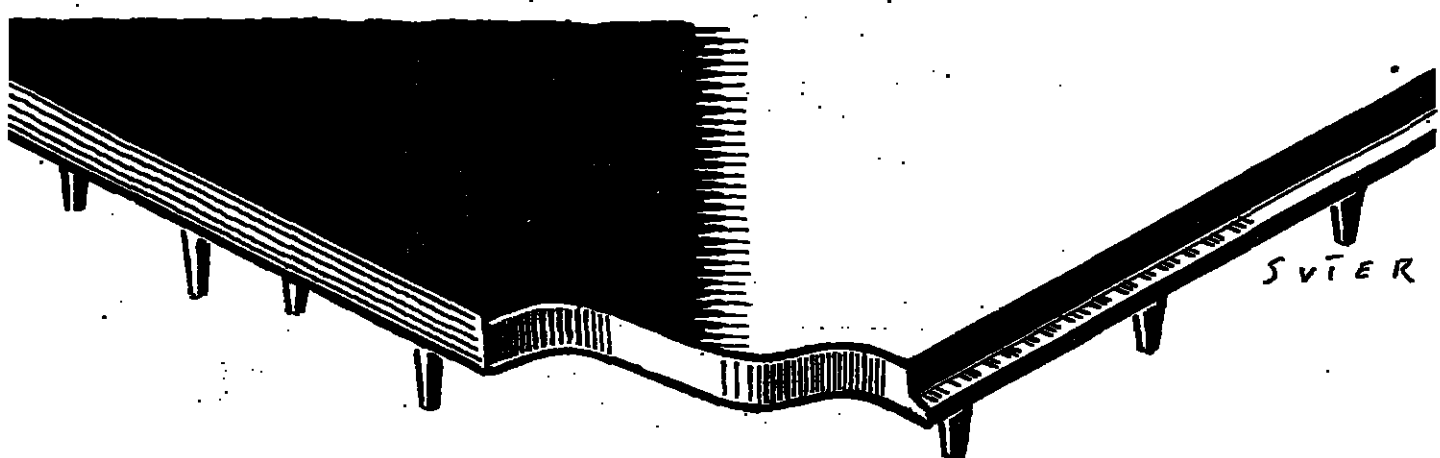
Partly as a result of the freeing of the rules governing solicitors, imaginative initiatives in the provision of legal services (mobile caravans to provide advice in rural areas, advice clinics and home visits to the elderly (*The Times*, November 30)) are being developed by law firms. These developments might actually be stifled by the bill — so much for the encouragement of private enterprise. It is depressing that the government cannot match the goodwill and initiative of professionals from the legal and advisory fields with a more imaginative bill.

Access to advice is essential in a complex world and the ability to use the courts to enforce rights or defend oppression distinguishes us from totalitarian societies. Access to an independent system of justice is as necessary as being adequately fed and clothed. Legal aid is the guarantee of that access. It is the responsibility of us all to ensure that it is not allowed to die of a thousand cuts.

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The author is Director, Legal Practice, of *The Law Society*.

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

Music's sublime summit



The other day — days, actually, for the experience was repeated three more — I found myself sitting not a dozen feet away from two of the greatest living sages, those twin towers of wisdom, learning and civilization, Sir Isaiah Berlin and Sir Ernst Gombrich, together with their respective ladies.

Mind you, though I scored on propinquity, I was by no means alone in their company; we had been joined by some 3,000 other people, including the Lords Weidenfeld and Gownie, the President of Trinity College, Oxford, Sir Claus and Lady Moser (the latter dressed from head to foot in a red outfit so summing that I feared that people would try to post their Christmas cards in her collar), the artist Milieu Cosman (widow of that maddening but indispensable fellow, Hans Keller), Sir Stephen Spender and his beautiful daughter Lizzie, Mr Ronald Grierson, who had three reasons for being there, though the rest of us had only two, Mr Humphrey Burton, Anthony and Catherine Storr, Kevin and Rachel Billington, the great Robert Muller (who is a real person, despite the widespread belief, which he has himself begun to share, that I invented him) and Mrs Alfred Brendel.

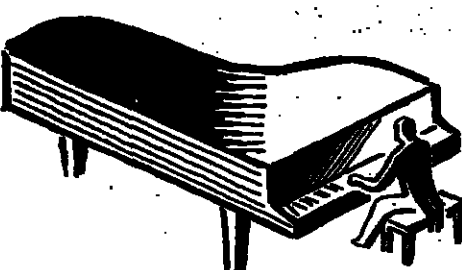
Never let it be said, then, that Levin does not mix with the *beau monde* and the *haut ton*. But what brought together so glittering and diverse a throng? The answer is: *Mr Alfred Brendel*. For we, under the benign presidency of Sir Isaiah, constituted the Brendel Groupies, mutually pledged not to miss any of his concerts or recitals unless we are abroad, jailed, in hiding from our creditors, undergoing open-heart surgery or fighting drunk. And our hero was playing, in the Festival Hall, a series of four recitals, all of them devoted exclusively to the music of Schubert, whence our two reasons to be there, viz., the music and the musician. (Mr Grierson, in addition, is the Chairman of the South Bank Board.)

Groupies excused for one or more of the disabilities above will be pleased to learn that Brendel has acquired a new *tic*, which takes the form of pushing his spectacles back as though they are about to fall off his face, though it is clear that they aren't; he takes appalling risks with it, sometimes doing it within a semi-quaver rest. Rather more to the point, those who missed the series missed some eight hours of piano playing that amounted to one of the most enthralling and affecting musical experiences of a lifetime, comparable to the seven-recital series in which, a few years ago, he played all the Beethoven sonatas.

There are still some very good pianists in the world. Though Richter plays no more (at any rate as far as the West is concerned), the veterans are well represented; Horowitz shows no sign of giving up, Michelangeli (should he actually appear) still displays a technique that none can rival, and Arrau, for all that he has to have a friendly arm to help him on and off the platform, sounds the dupes as he always did. Meanwhile their juniors like Perahia, Ashkenazy and Barenboim (though the last two, particularly Barenboim, are doing more and more conducting) tend the flame. What is it, then, that seems to set Brendel off from even the greatest of living players, with only one or two exceptions such as Serkin and the wunderkind Schiff, and numbers him with such giants of the past as Schnabel, Backhaus, Curzon, Fischer and Solomon?

One word makes all clear: authority. But it can be put even better at slightly greater length: you emerge from a Brendel performance of, say, the Waldstein, thinking not "What a great pianist Brendel is", but "What a great composer Beethoven is". And all the names in that galaxy inspired that feeling.

It is not a matter of self-effacement; not one of those pianists could have been mistaken for



These four programmes were not just wonderful and memorable musical experiences. They were life-enhancing in the most profound and enduring sense. The lives of all in those audiences who took their measure are permanently enriched.

any other. But while listening, the listener was convinced that *this* was the only way it could be played, and that the composer was nodding his head in approval from the Celestial Box. Of course, there is no "right" way to play any piece of music; provided it is approached with integrity (it isn't always, I'm sorry to say), a case can be made for almost any interpretation. But with most pianists, even including some of the very greatest, we murmur, even as we wholeheartedly applaud, a not entirely convinced "Hm". With Brendel, and the rest of the chosen few, it is an indisputable, fulfilled, "Ah".

With other pianists, there is talk, at dinner after the performance, of the daring tempo, of the delicacy of the playing in the last movement and the fiery quality of the first, of the dreamlike quality the pianist achieved in the adagio. This may be followed by comparisons; do you remember how X attacked the scherzo, how Y's touch was so vigorous, how Z went too fast for comfort in the repeat? Played by our Olympians, however, the music dominates the conversation, and the effect of it upon our souls is what we remember when we hear it like that.

So it was with Brendel's tour of Schubert: eight Impromptus, six *Moments Musicaux*, three *Klavierstücke*, the Wanderer Fantasy and eight sonatas; the final recital consisted of the last three sonatas Schubert wrote, all of them in a single month, as though he knew (he obviously did) that death was approaching, and that he had to forge those three mighty swords before the fire went out. Do such geniuses always have an intuition when their lives are coming to an end? Are they warned? I ask because there seems, too often to be coincidence, an extra intensity, a greater depth, in the music composed in their final span. The Mozart Requiem, for instance; these Schubert sonatas; the last Beethoven quartets; perhaps even *Parsifal*. If they can indeed see into the future, and through that glimpse learn that their future is destined to be cut short, it is not surprising that they struggle to tell their ultimate truths, to grasp the ultimate secret, before it is too late.

There is a tiny clue to Brendel's artistic

integrity in his attitude to encores. When he did the Beethoven sonata-series, he played one encore after each of the first six recitals, but made clear, with the most tactful mien, that he would not add anything to the seventh and last programme. Superstition? Exhaustion? Eager for his supper? No; it was only that the work which ended the series was the Op 111 Sonata, and, as he put it in his dressing-room, "After the 111, there is nothing more to say". And so it was with the four Schubert recitals. He played an encore after the first three, but he finished the final programme with the B flat major Sonata, and because after that, too, there is nothing more to say, he said nothing more.

It is hard to believe that, until very recently, the Schubert piano works were held in low esteem. (Well, his C major symphony was held in even lower, largely because those idiots in Vienna couldn't play it, and it was left to Mendelssohn to rescue it for posterity.) Yet it must surely be obvious to anyone with an ear on each side of his head that they are among the greatest musical creations in all history. Take the Sonata D784, which Brendel included in the first of the programmes. Mysterious, dark, almost tormented, full of strange harmonies and stranger modulations, it challenges the very idea of what music is, just as Beethoven's last quartets challenged not only the form but the substance. Brendel's playing of it found all the pain, yet instinctively and unerringly found also the resolution, as a great theatre director — and only a great one — finds the resolution in *King Lear*; any production of *Lear* which leaves the audience in despair has failed, and anyone who misses the exaltation in the D784 is — well, is listening to someone other than Brendel play it.

And then there was the D959, Schubert's penultimate sonata. Every time that astounding theme in the last movement — part hymn, part military march, part glorious Schubertian song — came round, Brendel gave it more meaning and more delight — yet the earlier versions lacked nothing of either; this wonderful musician had simply (simply!) felt Schubert's mounting excitement as the flames of the music burned ever higher, and conveyed that excitement in full.

Again, take the Impromptus, particularly the second and third from the D935 set. The principal idea in each of them is of the most simple, almost childish, construction, and it is perfectly possible, and indeed perfectly legitimate, to play them that way. It needs a Brendel, with his magisterial, humble certainty, to show that they have great depths beneath the innocence. No, he doesn't show that; he doesn't "show" anything. He plays the music, without histrionics, eccentricity or vainglory, and it sweeps us away with its beauty and his impeccable judgement.

These four programmes were not just wonderful and memorable musical experiences. They were life-enhancing in the most profound and enduring sense: my life, and the lives of all in those audiences who took the measure of what they were hearing, are permanently enriched by those eight hours. The greatness of Schubert is infinite, yet it continues to grow for anyone who explores it, because the solace, joy, truth, and — above all — understanding that he offers are literally endless. To explore it in the company of Alfred Brendel's playing is to reach as far into the mystery as mortals can hope to get.

The date of the Brendel Groupies' AGM will shortly be announced by Sir Isaiah Berlin. The first item on the agenda will be a discussion on the question: Since he doesn't look at the keyboard anyway, why does he bother to wear his spectacles if he is afraid of them falling off?

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T.E. Utley

A dissident for the deanery

Throughout the whole of the controversy, which I now propose to continue, about the preface to *Crockford's*, I have been haunted by one half-remembered quotation from G.K. Chesterton which I have failed to trace. I remember, in an obscure essay by him, the aphorism that there were two notable deficiencies in our lives today — one was personal kindness and the other intellectual ferocity.

I observe the lack of both of them in the row about *Crockford's*. The preface itself is almost wholly admirable: it is elegant, scholarly and witty. If it lacks anything, it is intellectual ferocity. In earlier years in the history of the Church of England a disgruntled don who wanted to set about the Archbishop of Canterbury would have done so with rather more vigour, economizing on the compliments and putting in the boot with some force. Certainly, the preface was not deficient in personal kindness.

As for the reactions to it, they were for the most part simply ludicrous. They exhibited ferocity, but hardly "intellectual ferocity", and not much personal kindness. "Scurrilous, sour and vindictive" went the cry. I do not propose to enter into the pedantic controversy about which particular paragraphs of the preface each of these adjectives was applied to. There was no paragraph to which any of them might properly have been applied.

After all, what was the Archbishop accused of? He was charged with being weak (the charge most commonly raised against everybody in church and state who has grave public responsibilities to bear) and he was charged with helping his own friends and people of like minds to get jobs.

Does anyone suppose (cf. Trollope) that this has never gone on in the Church of England before? Nepotism is the least of human sins and, indeed, it is a question whether it is a sin at all. There is a great deal, in terms of common sense, to be said for insisting on knowing who is in the kitchen. I must reveal to you that journalists, even, do much to promote the interests of their friends.

Why, then, should Dr Hugh Montefiore, the former Bishop of Birmingham, get so excited? He ended his defence of the Archbishop in this newspaper with what amounted, in my view, to a piece of hyperbole verging on the blasphemous. He hoped that the Archbishop would take comfort from Jesus's words: "Blessed are ye when men shall revile you and speak all manner of evil against you for my sake." The Archbishop is not being "reviled", nor is "evil" being spoken against him. He has been mildly criticized, and

he has taken the criticism like a Christian gentleman. Anyway, he is not Savonarola — thank God!

Then there is the point about anonymity. *Crockford's* used to be anonymous in order to establish a pleasant game for dons and clergy-men. It was a good joke, and everyone enjoyed it, like the Christmas quizzes. Anonymity, in my view, has immense merits. I do not think, for example, that the old-fashioned habit of anonymous book reviewing was altogether bad. When one wrote an anonymous book review one had some sort of sense of scholarly responsibility. When one writes a signed article there is an inevitable temptation to "carry on for notice", as many used to say; you may have observed this tendency in *The Times* on Monday mornings. Unfortunately, however, the anonymity of the *Crockford's* preface has assumed a new character today. Clergymen who have the smallest human desire for promotion but are against the current trend in the Church of England dare not speak out publicly, yet what they have to say should be heard.

This is the result of synodical government. Traditionally, it has been the business of the state to maintain a proper balance in ecclesiastical appointments, in order to ensure that the diversities by which the Church of England lives are reasonably represented in the composition of the hierarchy. The Church of England is a church/state partnership or it is nothing. The state has largely retreated from its responsibilities and turned the Church of England into a self-governing sect. But the battle is not lost. The Prime Minister still has a pre-eminent influence on the appointment of deans, and the Deanery of St Paul's is now vacant. Just one independent voice, established in such a post, would give the "silent majority" of Anglican worshippers some hope. It would restore the balance of the debate.

It would be essential that such a dean should be eccentric rather than reasonable, that he should not be sycophantic towards the Conservative Party, that he should be totally independent — something like Dean Inge. The most suitable and least likely candidate for the office is Dr Edward Norman, the Dean of Peterhouse. A furor would ensue in the Anglican establishment, but equilibrium would supervene. Anyway, it is time that the Prime Minister used what powers remain to her to assert the continuing influence of the state over church government and its role as umpire in the factious conflicts to which the clergy are by nature disposed.

A very happy Christmas to you all, including, I hasten to add, the Archbishop of York.

however... Philip Howard

Great daze of Christmas

We are characteristically out of date in our images of this week. Even though there are lifelike Yule logs lying around in the parlour, most of us live in smokeless zones. We aren't going out to lug one home, even if we had a grate to burn the brute in. According to Aubrey we used to decorate our houses with ivy at Christmas, before the Forestry Commission made available the prunings of balding fir saplings. And ivy goes back to Bacchus.

Stage coaches, boars' heads, wassailing, and all the other symbols look backwards to the ghosts of Christmas Past. Future historians will note the real images of our Christmas Present, in our brisk new Britain.

The lights From early autumn until the end of the year they used to decorate their main streets with tasteless illuminations in honour of Snow White, Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer, and other tribal gods. Ninety shopping days before Christmas some celebrity would perform the ritual of "switching on the lights". A celebrity was a person whose face or other parts were recognizable because she or he had married a dim royal, or taken off her skirt for page 3.

The shopping For these people, shopping for superfluities rather than necessities was their inexplicable recreation. In hellish congestion they would shuffle up and down the high streets of the cities all Saturday, watching other people "shopping", and wasting their money prodigally on useless and meretricious objects, which were sold only at this time of year, and whose purpose was often opaque or even invisible. The sociologist Stieglitz (*Int. Soc. Database JARGONXYW15392*, Brumaire 2087) has suggested that "shopping" was an atavistic survival of medieval ceremonies of penitence and mortification. But in a society that worshipped material success, they enjoyed conspicuous expenditure. And part of the attraction seems to have been that after Christmas they could do it all again, exchanging the useless objects for others equally useless.

The parties For every night of the four weeks leading up to Christmas there were at least a dozen "Publishers' Parties". These ceremonies, for which no scholar has yet suggested a plausible purpose, were notable for free-loading, noise, and cheap plonk in cardboard cups, if

you were lucky. There were elements of a Mystery Religion about them, with coded messages and formulaic responses. For example, the incantation, "Darling, I loved your book", has been decoded as meaning, "I never read it, but I really enjoyed the bitchy reviews".

The jams As a result of these winter rituals, travelling in the centre of the towns and cities was slower than



Chris Wormell

riding a centipede for the whole of December. Underground trains were even more infrequent and crowded than usual. The roads were often blocked motionless with traffic for hours on end. But these were people who were frightened of solitude. They actually enjoyed sitting "jammed" in their metal wombs, alongside millions of others, occasionally honking their horns in pleasure at being at the centre of things, "where it was all at". Jam was the sticky sweet they spread on bread, and accordingly a term of approval.

The telly These were deeply conservative and unimaginative people. So the national television services put on exactly the same dreary programmes every Christmas, to relieve the public of the need to make conversation with their "nearest and dearest" when they were marooned with them for the only time of the year. It has been suggested that such extraordinary productions as *Carry On Up The Chimney* and *Wogan in the Gloom* were penitential mortifications (*op. cit.*). But they actually enjoyed the recycled cold cabbage. We have cracked the problem at the Word Laboratory this year by deciding to publish newspapers on Boxing Day. So the lucky ones can get on with normal life on Christmas Day in the morning.



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NO MAGINOT MENTALITY

Nato will soon be completing proposals for conventional arms reductions: it also wants to modernize its conventional arms. The two are not incompatible. They are part of the one object: to achieve military stability in Europe and thereby lessen political tension. In a letter published in *The Times* on December 17, Mr Armen Oganessian, of the Novosti Press Agency, takes issue with us — in the wake of the INF agreement — for advocating Nato force modernization.

He objects to "clever weapons stuffed with electronics" — those projectiles, known in western military parlance as "smart weapons", intended to reduce the dependence of allied commanders on vastly more powerful nuclear arms. There is no question of a new generation of destructive arms being suddenly spirited down out of the blue.

But Soviet weapons' developers, like those of other nations, have been improving and inventing new conventional weaponry and will continue to do so while force remains the ultimate source of international security. What is important is that such weapons should enhance rather than reduce international stability. Since they are intended to pinpoint massed concentrations of attacking armour, supply dumps, missile sites, offensive air bases and enemy command posts, they may be properly called defensive in nature.

In fact, Mr Oganessian proposes a "defence-only strategy" based on the minimum of measures essential to assure national security. Any Nato member-state would tell him that this is precisely what they are doing. Many feel that not enough is being done to ensure even that. But perhaps Mr Oganessian means a "defensive defence"? If so, he needs to be enlightened.

There have been suggestions in the last few years — but not by serious authorities — that western military forces should be equipped, not with tanks but with anti-tank weapons, not with combat aircraft but with anti-aircraft

weapons, not with mobile formations but with troops dug-in ready to defend their homelands. Such proposals are, to put it charitably, idealistic. One need only remember the Maginot Line — stuffed with heavy guns, well provided with tanks and supported by aircraft. It proved futile.

Mr Oganessian also advocates corridors free of all weapons capable of launching a surprise attack. There is a comparatively simple way of achieving this. The Soviet Union today keeps 30 fully manned divisions beyond its western frontier: two in Poland, four in Hungary, five in Czechoslovakia and 19 in East Germany. Behind them, in the Baltic, Byelo-Russian and Carpathian Military Districts, 63 further divisions are echeloned to support offensive action. All these are their best Grade-1 divisions, primarily equipped with tanks supported by combat helicopters, assault guns and infantry in armoured fighting vehicles. Although these divisions are somewhat smaller than their western equivalents, their combat elements are not, the number of tanks being about the same or larger than those of the West.

Against this, Nato's non-indigenous forces in West Germany consist of five US and three British divisions, Belgian, Canadian and Dutch troops amounting to about one and a half, further back, and not under Nato command, are three French divisions — a total of fewer than 13. Such a corridor could indeed be created by simply withdrawing the 30 Soviet divisions to the Soviet Union.

If, instead of being massed in a crust on the western frontier, they were to disperse deeper into the interior or, better still, disband altogether, then, indeed, the possibility of surprise attack would be greatly reduced. Such simple measures would achieve what Mr Oganessian rightly sees as vital for Europe: building mutual confidence. His letter should have been sent, not just to *The Times*, but to Mr Gorbachev.

HELPING THE LAW'S YOUNG

Newcomers to the Bar, or awaiting call, are often encouraged through the poverty of their early years by a vision of a land of abundance if they are patient and hard working. There is indeed a lot of money to be made at the top, justifying, in at least some cases, the "rags to riches" defence of the course of an English advocate's career.

For those more or less permanently marooned in the middle ranks of the profession, however, the pickings are not so great. The greater sacrifices of youth merely give way to the lesser sacrifices of middle age. The only surprise is that they have put up with it so long.

A group of young barristers have organized themselves to try to change things, a sort of devils' trades union. The Younger Members Committee of the Society of Conservative Lawyers has produced an excellent report. Somewhere among their number may lurk a reforming Lord Chancellor for the early years of the next century. It has the great merit of refusing to be dazzled by tradition, particularly the hidebound privileges and practices of life in chambers; and of relating what at first must seem a technical, even petty matter to the wider general principles.

The report makes the well-known but still startling observation that anyone wishing to pursue a career at the Bar must expect at least two years of almost no income, and rely for survival on private means and parental support, part-time work, local authority grants if they can get them, and Inns of Court scholarships and pupillage awards — neither of which are likely to be generous or plentiful.

The Younger Members Committee makes the good point that, as a result, talent is lost to the Bar because the starting pay in other careers is much more enticing — £10,000 for articulated clerks, and rather more in the City. A better point still would have been to attack the automatic bias built into recruitment to the

Bar by the need to rely on parents or unearned income. Anything which widened the social base from which barristers are drawn would be good for them, and good for the law in general. The real problem is not the quantity of candidates for the Bar, but their quality and their range of background.

The suggested remedies are less important than the problems they are highlighting. Some of the changes in training methods which they propose will be strongly contested. There is, for instance, an argument for more, rather than less formal academic education during the pupillage years. It may not be directly relevant to the average criminal brief, but the Bar is a self-regulating profession from which we draw law officers and judges. Law ought always to be about something more profound than legal precedent and adversarial duelling.

One area of criticism is directed not so much to those responsible for the administration of the "official" training regime but to barristers in general, all of whom are to some degree responsible for the policies and attitudes adopted in chambers towards pupils, which the report describes as still resembling Victorian apprentices in the way they are treated.

There is also a plea that, in effect, members of chambers should take their responsibilities towards newcomers more seriously. That must include ensuring that adequate financial support is available. Most professions accept a duty to new entrants, not only to pass on the tricks of the trade but also to see they do not go hungry meanwhile. Members of the Bar may accept such an obligation to their pupils in principle. But the loose way the profession is organised, as a collection of self-employed individuals, has tended to make it no-one's particular business. Some chambers have already moved towards accepting a collective responsibility for the financial maintenance of pupils; but surely all of them should do so.

TEDDY DOESN'T BREAK DOWN

Twenty thousand children this Christmas will find among their presents a Harrods teddy bear. Soft and cuddly, with green knitted hat and sympathetic expression, the bears were sold out well before this last frantic week of shopping. "Bear business has been booming," say Harrods.

The grand store's findings are confirmed by other, humbler toy sellers. All note a return to traditional, uncomplicated toys after years in which teddies have come second to hi-tech. This year, doll's houses, building blocks, train sets and, especially, teddy bears, are leaving the shelves faster than the child-tailored wonders of electronics: computer games, action-men and their relatives.

Some say the advertisers are to blame — if blame is the right word. Christmas 1987 has been promoted as a traditional festival. Its selling point is Nostalgia. Round puddings wrapped in muslin — like great-grandmother reputedly made — are in demand. Real Christmas trees are back in fashion; so are log fires, candles and Christmas carols — the old ones.

But the advertisers cannot be blamed for the bear-boom. The shamelessly child-directed commercials on television are peacocks to technological toys. There are no eulogies to bears and none to dolls — unless they can walk, talk and generally "interact" with their potential owner. The new-style toys are brightly coloured or metallic, impressive-looking and complicated, and they cost — upwards of £100 is not unusual.

Shopkeepers deny that parents are put off by price. Hi-tech toys, they insist, span the whole range of prices. Teddy bears and dolls may, on average, be cheaper, but equally they can be just as expensive. Some venture the suggestion that the violent element in many electronic toys is encountering parental resistance. The Rambo factor is not what it used to be. All this,

however, is to ignore what it is that bears and dolls have that hi-tech toys do not: durability and, above all, a character that can be defined by that of their owner.

The unwrapping of an electronic toy is a complex affair involving several boxes, sets of instructions (in languages which include Dutch, Swedish and Japanese) and, in the end, elaborate assembly. The procedure can keep a curious child busy or drive an impatient child to fury. The instructions need to be read — and understood. Batteries or plugs may be needed, a battery's life having a habit of proving shorter than a child's fascination. And that is before the microchip develops a life of its own, unanticipated by the manual.

The appeal of a teddy bear is immediate. As many toy people's teddies testify — Mrs Thatcher's faithful Humphrey among them — the lifespan of a well-treated bear may approach or even exceed its owner's allotted three score years and ten. Bears are friendly and approachable, and — until an overpawed paw wears through, a much-pulled arm comes off, or the growl fades away — they need no maintenance. Teddies are thoroughly portable; they are socially acceptable everywhere — and they don't break down.

Above all, a teddy bear — of the unelectronic kind — has no preconceptions and no prepared script. The possibilities of a techno-toy are limited. It requires little imagination (except at times to interpret the instructions), and its range will eventually be exhausted. Not so teddy. He will provide on cue exactly what its owner requires: comfort, commiseration, a soft friendly ear to confide in or a furry shoulder to cry on. There is a lot to be said for a creature sufficiently broad-minded to appeal to both Mrs Thatcher and *Brideshead's* Sebastian Flyte. ... wonder teddy bears are making a comeback; how did anyone ever do without one?

A quizzical look at architecture

From the Very Reverend David Lewis

Sir, A report in today's *Times* (December 16) tells us that the Prince of Wales was praised by the Georgian Group for "practising what he preaches" — clearly a commendable thing to do in matters of virtue and morality. "The improvements he has made to Highgrove are admirable," said Mr Roger White.

The two pictures you publish cause me to come to a totally different conclusion. The house in its original state seems to me far more pleasing and less pretentious, which perhaps only goes to show the danger of apocryphal might be in order. *de gustibus non est disputandum*, as the woman is reported to have said when she kissed the cow. I have the honour to remain, yours faithfully, DAVID LEWIS, St Michael's Rectory, 11 St Michael Street, Brecon, Powys.

From Mr John Woodward

Sir, The debate arising from the Mansion House speech of the Prince of Wales (report, December 2) should be extended to consider the impact from the unbridled development which will shortly threaten areas beyond our towns and cities.

Lincolnshire, as other rural shire counties, is formed of numerous small towns, villages and hamlets which are now facing an influx of residential development in unprecedented magnitude. It is feared that the quality of life in our rural communities will altogether disappear as did happen with urban redevelopment.

If our village settlements are to be swamped by those imported, characterless and scaleless agglomerations of identical bungalows beloved of speculative developers who describe them as "estates", yet the very opposite of the true "estates" which grace our countryside, then, inevitably, the forces which motivate and give cohesion to village life will not survive.

Rural communities find expression in the village greens, churchyards, manors, inns, cottages, lanes, alleyways, hedgerows, copes, becks and ponds. This mixture shelters people of all ages and stations and sustains wide

variations of interest within a recognisable unity of place.

These features need to be appreciated and retained when we are planning the integration of new developments with existing settlements. Those who control planning in our district councils should take stock of their timeless values before venturing on wholesale development.

May I suggest to those planners that this time the architects will not be blind to the task required of them and that as we come to build in the countryside their design skills can and must be used to safeguard our quality of life.

Yours truly, JOHN WOODWARD (President, Lincolnshire Society of Architects), High House, Scopwick, Lincoln.

From Mr J. S. Gordon
Sir, Idi Amin, upon returning from his visit to Paris when President of Uganda, is reported to have marched into the planning office in Kampala and ordered that he wished to see boulevards everywhere. Upon his departure, the harassed senior planning officer is reported to have sighed and said, "Thank God he didn't go to Venice".

Architecture is like music; it is the gaps between the notes and chords which give depth, quality and interest to the whole piece. The notes themselves contribute size, clarity and shape, as do buildings.

Similarly, it is the open spaces — the streets, parks and vistas — which underlie the psychological and aesthetic response to the buildings. The latter cannot be viewed as the entire source of an unpleasant view but must rather be considered in relation to a context which is, of necessity, partly organically historical and partly due to current idiomatic necessity.

The main problem in the current argument is that developers usually want profitable "pop songs", local planners usually want "good standards", politicians want "sols", whilst HRH is after a symphony. But at least Prince Charles may have more success in encouraging all the better musicians to work together!

Yours faithfully, J. S. GORDON, Gordons (Chartered Surveyors), 3 Stedham Place, WCI.

defended. They ought never to have been thought to be required.

It is in order to say "I know but I am not allowed to tell". If that would not meet the case, then the whole basis of the contract to write the preface was wrong. It would have been wrong, even if the outcome had been simply a continuing argument; and even if the Church had been strengthened not weakened thereby. Yours faithfully, HELEN OPPENHEIMER, L'Aigillon, Grouville, Jersey, CI, December 13.

From Mr Brian R. Taylor
Sir, Since the publication of the *Crockford's* preface we have seen a large number of statements condemning people because they have made statements condemning other people. One would have expected that those who found the practice distasteful in others would not themselves have indulged in it. Yours faithfully, BRIAN R. TAYLOR, 5 Donaldson Road, Salisbury, Wiltshire, December 14.

expensive position of having to contact us in order to tell us that they had no information of any real value.

I have no doubt that as the law stands the hospital authorities were correct to act as they did. Nevertheless, sooner or later somebody in our position will surely suffer at best extreme inconvenience, and at worst a tragedy. Surely, in situations of this kind, college authorities should be given the right to be treated as close relatives of students away from home. Yours faithfully, P. F. BURROWS, 89 Saunders Road, E14, December 5.

generator or customer, and a set of market rules (like the Stock Exchange rules) to ensure fair trading and security of supply.

A cardinal rule would be that the dispatch would have overriding control to run the large generators to ensure stability. Another provision would be the creation of a financial reserve to cover the costs of major mishaps. Yours sincerely, ALEX HENNEY, 38 Swains Lane, N6, December 12.

Interrupted service

From Mrs O. M. Andrews
Sir, A comment upon the times: the long-announced Service of Nine Lessons and Carols on Westminster Hospital at St Margaret's commenced with the announcement that because of a 7 o'clock vote the service would be curtailed, carols omitted, and verses left out.

What an odd priority. Could not the vote have been postponed to 7.15 pm?

Probably no more than a dozen MPs were present among the congregation of 700 or more.

I was appalled. Yours faithfully, O. M. ANDREWS, 75 Alderney Street, SW1, December 14.

Not in the spirit of Christmas

From the Principal and Vice-Chancellor, University of Strathclyde

Sir, My life is made the more miserable by photocopied letters and articles which I feel obliged to read, if only out of respect for those who send them. I therefore dread the Christmas card containing the folded foolscap page of the past year's activities of my best friends and their families. Each one leaves me exhausted at the range of their myriad adventures, all triumphantly successful.

Before this well-intentioned scholarship becomes a widespread habit, may I plead for restraint. I love my friends for what they are. I am pleased to know they are alive and well. Their adventures and potted biographies I wish to be spared. Yours faithfully, GRAHAM HILLS, Principal and Vice-Chancellor, University of Strathclyde, Penthouse, Livingstone Tower, 26 Richmond Street, Glasgow, December 14.

From Sir Christopher Coote
Sir, The arrival of the Christmas card season and its attendant stamp-licking prompts me to raise a niggling query.

The retail food trade is subject to rigorous statutory requirements and codes of practice regarding the handling of food (non pre-packed) across open counters for sale, in the laudable interests of hygiene, so that we do not put too many germs and bacteria in our mouths. Yet when we buy our postage

Slow summing-up

From Mr Ralph Blumenau
Sir, I agree with Mrs Hill (December 17) that the Balkan-type queues with which we have to put up in the Post Office would be cut if it provided calculators.

That said, however, what about the courteous young girl behind the counter showing a bit of initiative herself by bringing a calculator of her own to work? The kind of calculator she needs can be had for about £3, quite apart from the fact that every school-leaver surely already possesses one. Yours faithfully, RALPH BLUMENAU, 47 Buckingham Court, Kensington Park Road, W11, December 17.

From Mrs Edward Hughes
Sir, The Post Office's seasonal efficiency delivered a surprise this morning — a cheque (for a charity event held in November last year) dated October 26, 1986. Thus the envelope in which it arrived — boldly marked "first class" and postmarked Southampton and stamped with two 20p stamps — had made a postal journey of one year, one month and 20 days. Yours faithfully, PENELOPE LE FANU, 18 Markham Square, SW3, December 16.

From Mrs Janet Dean
Sir, Having recently requested the Aberdeen post office to continue to redirect my mail, I was pleased to receive confirmation that this would be done. The confirming letter was sent to the old address and, I am happy to announce, correctly redirected to the new one. Yours faithfully, JANET DEAN, The Knoll, 23 Hallmeadow Road, Glossop, Derbyshire, December 13.

From Mr Patrick Pringle
Sir, One day in 1935 I left home after breakfast, took the boat train from Victoria, had lunch in Boulogne and then posted a card to my mother which was delivered (in a London suburb) after supper the same day. Yours faithfully, PATRICK PRINGLE, 27 Giesbach Road, N19, December 17.

Abortion Bill

From Dr C. B. Goodhart
Sir, Mrs Tessa Keswick (December 16) exaggerates what may be a real problem when she implies that the Abortion Bill would prevent "the termination of 5,000 or so of what are tragically the most severely handicapped foetuses".

In fact, the latest published figures, for the June quarter, 1987, show that there were 486 abortions legally procured under the 1967 Act with mention of statutory ground 4 ("substantial risk of child being born seriously handicapped"). This is equivalent to rather under 2,000 in a full year, by no means all of which will have been done after the eighteenth week, and so would be covered by Mr Alton's Bill.

Yours etc, C. B. GOODHART, Gonville & Caius College, Cambridge, December 16.

Victorian values?

From Mrs A. M. Chisholm
Sir, Am I to be delighted by the business acumen of my three-year-old inkeeper in our Nativity Play who — without prompting and to the astonishment of the audience — demanded payment from Joseph and Mary for the use of the stable; or am I to be alarmed at such youthful materialism? Yours faithfully, AURIOL CHISHOLM, 2 Manor Cottages, Iford, Nr Lewes, East Sussex, December 16.

stamps they are slid to us face-up across a probably dirty Post Office counter, after having been selected by leaching through sheets of stamps which often need separating with the licked finger of the clerk.

We seem quite happy to take these home and industriously spend hours licking the backs.

Would some member of the medical profession be able to give us any indication of the health dangers to which we may be exposing ourselves? Yours faithfully, C. J. COOTE, Russets, Blackpond Lane, Farnham Royal, Buckinghamshire, December 13.

From Mrs Bridget Bonthron
Sir, Dr Dakers (December 11) should count himself lucky not to have been amongst my mother's acquaintances. She was delighted to receive Christmas cards signed only with Christian names. The following year she would send them out to other friends with the addendum, "and Margaret and the twins". Yours faithfully, BRIDGET BONTHRON, 3 Woodside Road, New Malden, Surrey, December 14.

ON THIS DAY

DECEMBER 21 1905

This letter carried the signatures of 15 eminent medical authorities.

Among them was that of Dr. Acland, referred to in the leading article, whose study of boys in the United States showed that boys there were allowed in bed longer than was usual in this country.

THE IMPORTANCE OF LONGER HOURS OF SLEEP AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir, — Will you permit us to call attention through your columns to the importance of giving a sufficient amount of sleep to growing boys? In some of our largest schools the question has not received the consideration which it deserves.

The harm done by giving too little sleep to boys is not only that it lessens their power of facing their attention on work, and causes slowness and weariness in games, but it is a definite factor in the causation of intellectual inefficiency, which may be far-reaching in its effects.

It is held by those who have paid special attention to the subject that a minimum of nine hours of unbroken rest in summer and nine and a half in winter is needed by the average boy of from 13 to 16. It is not sufficient to send the younger boys earlier to bed in dormitories in which the older boys cause a disturbance by coming up later, and a definite wrong is inflicted on growing boys by giving them only the same amount of sleep that is needed by those who have reached maturity. If this is done, it is almost certain that the majority of them will leave school less well equipped for the struggle of life, both in body and in mind, than might have been the case if more generous hours of rest had been accorded to them during their years of development.

The Council of the Medical Officers of Schools Association have sent a paper on this subject, which was recently read at their general meeting, to the headmaster and the chairman of the governing body of all the principal schools in the country, asking them to give it their consideration.

The question is one which should interest all parents who have a boy at school, and demands the serious attention of headmasters. It is satisfactory to learn that some of the great schools have the matter already under discussion, and we venture to hope that a much needed reform in this essential part of school hygiene will not be long postponed.

... DR. ACLAND has brought together the facts in relation to forty public schools, and has arranged them in a table which shows that only five of these afford to the boys the amount of sleep which is medically declared to be desirable or even necessary, and which is the rule in America. Out of twenty-seven medical officers of schools and other experts nine advocate ten hours' bed or more, eight advocate nine and a half to ten, six advocate nine to ten, and four nine as a "minimum". In twenty-three of the forty English schools the sleeping hours range from eight to eight and a half hours. There is absolute agreement among physiologists on the point that, whereas sleep is presumably required by the adult only for the recuperation or maintenance of existing tissue, it is required in childhood for the additional and still more important purposes of growth and development. ... Every argument that supports the necessity of abundant sleep for growing boys applies with even more force to the other sex, in which both bodily and intellectual growth are more rapid, in which the nervous system is more mobile and more easily deranged, and in which, nowadays, w keen competitions are encouraged both by teachers and employers.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

KENSINGTON PALACE
December 19: The Princess of Wales, Patron, National Children's Orchestra, this afternoon attended a rehearsal by the Orchestra at the Royal Academy of Music, Marylebone Road, London NW1.

Miss Alexandra Loyd was in attendance.

Today's royal engagements

The Princess of Wales, Patron of the Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children, will attend the twentieth anniversary of the Hospital's Christmas carol concert at the Albert Hall at 7.15. Princess Margaret, President of the Royal Ballet, will attend the Raise the Roof Ball at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, at 8.30 in aid of the development fund.

The Duchess of Gloucester, patron of the Helen Arkell Dyslexia Centre, will attend a children's Christmas concert at St John's, Smith Square, at 2.40.

Dinner

Llandowery College
Lieutenant-Colonel J.R. Evans, Chairman of the Trustees of Llandowery College, presided at a dinner given last Friday evening at the Cardiff and County Club by the trustees in honour of Dr R. Brinley Jones, Warden of the College, who is shortly returning on taking up his appointment as Chairman of the Welsh Advisory Committee of the British Council. The Trustees present included the College Visitor, the Archbishop of Wales, Sir Cennedy Traherne, Lord Justice Watkins, V.C. Viscount Tonypandy, Lord Aberdare, Mr D.C. Mansel Lewis, Lord Lieutenant of Dyfed, Mr W. Emrys Evans and Mr Peter M. Davies who proposed a toast to Dr and Mrs Jones.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr L. Zinovieff and Miss A. Eccles
The engagement is announced between Leo, son of Mr Peter Zinovieff, and Miss Victoria Zinovieff, daughter of the Hon Simon Eccles and Mrs Sheelie Eccles.

Dr T.J. Winiffrith and Mrs H. Norton
The engagement is announced between Tom, second son of Sir John Winiffrith and the late Lady Winiffrith of Hallhouse Farm, Appleton, Kent, and Helen, only daughter of the late Sir George Young and Lady Young.

Mr W.B. Horlick and Miss L.C. Hanson
The engagement is announced between William Benedict, youngest son of Vice-Admiral Sir Ted and Lady Horlick, of Bath, and Lucy Caswell, daughter of Mrs R. Hanson, of York, and Mr T.J.B. Hanson, of Inverness.

Dr E.E. Anggard and Miss F.R. Dill
The engagement is announced between Erik E. Anggard, of Stockholm, Sweden, and Rosanne, elder daughter of the late Colonel John Dill, MBE, and Mrs Dill, of The Grange, Upsall, Thirsk, North Yorkshire.

Mr J.M. Brown and Miss E.J. Leaman
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, only son of Mr and Mrs W.V. Brown, of Nottingham, and Emma, only daughter of the late Mr Graham Leaman and Mrs Myrtle Leaman, of Bledington, Oxfordshire.

Mr S.P. Carter and Miss S.J. Bryan
The engagement is announced between Simon Peter, son of Mr and Mrs Peter Carter, of Earley,

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Jean Racine, dramatist, La Ferté - Milan, France, 1639; Sir Joseph Whitworth, Bt, mechanical engineer, Stockport, 1803; Benjamin Disraeli, 1st Earl of Beaconsfield, prime minister 1868, 1874-80, London, 1804; Joseph Stalin, general secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union 1922-53, Gori, Georgia, 1879.

DEATHS: Giovanni Boccaccio, Certaldo, Italy, 1375; James Parkinson, physician, London, 1824; F Scott Fitzgerald, novelist, Hollywood, 1940; Gladys Rayley, contralto, Clchester, 1953.

Reception

Legal & General
Professor Sir James Ball, Chairman of Legal & General, and Lady Ball, were hosts at a reception held at the London Ritz, after a gala performance of *Hamlet* & *Gretel*, sponsored by Legal & General, in aid of the Save the Children Fund. The reception was attended by members of the cast and management of the English National Opera, members of the Save the Children Gala Committee and their guests.

Bridge

The British Bridge League has met and confirmed the selection en bloc of the team which came second in the recent world championships to represent Great Britain in the open section of the Olympiad in Venice from October 8 to 22. The team is M.J. Flynn, R.M. Sheehan, R.S. Brock, A.R. Forrester, J.M. Armstrong, G.T. Kirby, n.p.c. R.A. Friday.

In the women's event Mrs N. Smith and Miss P. Davies have been exempted from trials to be held in London from April 28 to May 2.

Clifford Longley A question of theological discipline

A vigorous and invigorating public argument between an Oxford Professor of Logic and a Cambridge Professor of Divinity has broken out in the pages of *New Blackfriars*, the magazine of the Dominican Order in England. The logician, Professor Michael Dummett, enjoys the reputation of being the best at his trade in Britain; the theologian, Professor Nicholas Lash, of being unique.

Such men are likely to be found arguing unexpectedly from unexpected premises, as is the case. The Wykeham Professor of Logic is attacking the alleged dilution of Christian orthodoxy by liberal theologians; the Norris-Hulse Professor of Divinity thinks his attack a disaster. Near the surface is the now seasonally topical issue of the Virgin Birth - whether Jesus Christ has a human father - but the dispute is not about the doctrine's truth. Perhaps the clash would be less sharp if it were. It is, in essence, about discipline.

These two are, or have a good claim to be, the leading Roman Catholic intellectual luminaries in the British scene. Both are laymen. Both write brilliantly, elevating rigorous theological controversy to a form of literature. Looming on the horizon, and somehow relevant without being mentioned, is a visit to Britain in January of Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, Prefect of the Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith in the Vatican.

Professor Dummett published in the magazine's October edition a succinct denunciation of what he called a "remarkable consensus" said to exist among teachers of Catholic theology in United States seminaries and elsewhere.

Among them, he claimed, it is held to be almost self-evident that Jesus died without believing he was Christ or the Son of God; that he knew nothing of the Trinity; that he would have learnt from his mother who his real (human) father was; and that he taught the imminent arrival of a messianic figure called "the Son of Man", whom he never identified with himself. The list appears also to include the belief that Jesus's body

remained in its tomb and decomposed therein.

He objects to no-one holding such beliefs, only to them calling themselves Catholics. The Catholic Church teaches the opposite of all these things, and those who remain in it without consenting to those teachings are frauds. He concluded that "if the Catholic Church is not to be a laughing stock in the eyes of the world" then such divergence of views "ought, in my view, to be tolerated no longer."

This crushing of the toes of Catholic theology in the name of logic stung Professor Lash, in the December issue, to a logical counter-attack. "As a theologian I look to the philosopher to educate me in the art of moving properly from 'if' to 'then'. Inference is the philosopher's business. Readers of *New Blackfriars* who share this view of the matter and who respect, as I do, Michael Dummett's philosophical power, will expect his arguments to be strong. Dashing any such expectation, however, his article presents us with a catalogue of inferences so leaky as to constitute a kind of theological colander."

Dummett's reading of the New Testament is "flat-footed and anachronistic liberalism". He lists the non-sequiturs he detects in Dummett's specific arguments. But the real difference between them is the disciplinary one - Lash accuses Dummett of putting the requirement not to rock the boat "absurdly high in the catalogue of Christian virtues."

This, in the present climate (presumably a reference to Cardinal Ratzinger) is a dangerous thing to do. Of Dummett's remark that such divergence should no longer be tolerated, he declares: "At the present time, to write that sentence is either to be a creature of quite dove-like innocence or to be invoking, of set purpose, the forces of integralist repression."

New Blackfriars has given Professor Dummett the last word, at least so far. He acutely replies in the December edition: "There are, very properly, limits to Professor Lash's respect for experts. He convicts me of incompetence

not only in his area of expertise, but also of my own, namely logic..." He then proceeds to answer the charges of *non sequitur* at length.

But again the focus returns to discipline, and here Dummett moves a little Lash's way. He did not mean to imply "we must never rock the boat." He does not want to revive the Inquisition, or even the anti-Moderist oath - "I only want an authoritative pronouncement on the limits of admissible reinterpretation of the articles of the Creed."

He accepts, he states, that "one may feel bound, indeed one may be bound, to do or say what leads ecclesiastical authority to censure or even to cut one off from the body of the church; what one must not do is to separate oneself, individually or as part of a group, from that body."

But the principle does not decide its own application, so that in the Great Schism between the East and the West, for instance, each side made a different identification of the body from which they were bound not to break away. This common acceptance of the principle, however differently applied, is what, Dummett maintains, fundamentally distinguishes Orthodoxy and Catholicism from Protestantism.

His implicit challenge to Professor Lash now is to state his own position on some of the matters of substance. But this is not a clash between conservative and liberal in the Anglican sense, for the controversialists keep assuring each other that both are committed to "the dogmatic principle", and neither are minded to defend the *status quo*. Indeed Dummett's opening statement began with a declaration that the greatest priority for the Catholic Church is for unity with the Orthodox Churches, which "can only be achieved if the Catholic Church starts to dismantle that concentration of power at the centre which is unnecessary for the Pope's role as the focus of unity."

New Blackfriars, Blackfriars, Oxford OX1 3LY; £1.10.

OBITUARY

MR T. R. GRIEVE

Development of the petrol trade

Mr T.R. Grieve, CBE, who was managing director of Shell-Mex and BP during the years when oil was overtaking coal as Britain's major source of energy, died on December 13. After spending over forty years in the oil industry he was active, after retirement, in fostering industrial development in Scotland. He was 78.

Thomas Robert Grieve was born on September 11, 1909, and after education at Fettes he joined the Anglo-Saxon Petroleum Company in 1930.

In the war he won a Military Cross. He had held a Territorial commission for some years in the Highland Light Infantry, and he ended his war service, latterly as a major, seconded to Royal Engineers Movement Control.

After the war he worked for Shell Oil briefly in Canada, then in Houston, Texas. He came back to London in 1951 as manager of Shell's distribution and supply department and in 1959 became a director of Shell-Mex and BP, Ltd.

He became vice-chairman and managing director in 1965, succeeding John Davies, who had gone to be first director-general of the newly created Confederation of British Industry.

Shell-Mex and BP was at that time involved in what is called the downstream part of the oil industry, concerned with refining and distribution of petrol. Tom Grieve was an able administrator - he understood particularly the importance of good personal relations in the company - and an expert in marketing.

He presided over rationalization of the distribution system in the United Kingdom, setting up depots,

linked by pipeline, from which petrol was taken by road; the whole operation backed up by computers. From 1965-71 he was chairman of United Kingdom Oil Pipelines, Ltd.

For a time Grieve was a member of the Minister of Power's Energy Advisory Council. During this time he was also, reflecting the company's interest in public issues, chairman of the Keep Britain Tidy Group.

When he retired in 1971, he was immediately appointed chairman of the London executive of the Scottish Council, the body devoted to building up Scottish trade and industry. Physically the move was not much of an inconvenience: the Scottish Council's London office was in Shell-Mex House in the Strand, but on what they described as the slummy side, facing the street, whereas Grieve had been accustomed to the grandeur of the managing director's riverside suite.

His interests in the Scottish scene brought him the deputy chairmanship of the Hunterston Development Company. Meanwhile he also joined the boards of several other companies, some concerned with the oil industry, some in other areas of the economy.

From 1975-8 he was chairman of Hogg Robinson (Scotland) Ltd and from 1977-80 of Newarthill Ltd.

Throughout the 'seventies' he was on the management committee of the AA, and he was a governor of Shiplake College, Henley-on-Thames.

He is survived by his third wife, Peg, and by two daughters of his first marriage. His second wife died in 1985.

MR LOUIS LITTMAN

Mr Louis Littman, whose interests ranged from publishing and Jewish culture through dairy farming to property development, died on December 7, at the age of 62.

Louis Thomas Sidney Littman was born in London on November 2, 1925. At school in America, reluctantly, during the war, he decided to return to England in 1944, working his passage across the Atlantic as a cabin boy aboard a small Polish ship carrying explosives.

He then read law at Trinity College, Cambridge, and became a solicitor, practising in London from 1951 until 1967.

But all the time his overwhelming interest was the study of the classics of literature, and he was struck by the fact that many of the Jewish classics were not available in English. He set about remedying this in 1965 by establishing the Littman Library of Jewish Civilization, dedicated to the memory of his father, Joseph Aaron Littman.

Not only was this venture financed by him but Littman was closely involved in the selection of books to be published and in the setting of a high standard of production. Now published by the Oxford University Press, the library numbers almost fifty works on religion, philosophy and history, with more in preparation.

In 1977, as chairman of the

Jewish Literary Trust, Littman acted swiftly to preserve *The Jewish Quarterly*, which has since prospered. In 1982 he founded the Thackeray Society at the Reform Club.

In 1966 Littman started farming in Dorset, and he came to own a vast agricultural estate of dairy farms. They made farmhouse cheddar cheese which won numerous prizes, and became one of the largest producers of goats' milk.

Meanwhile, in London and elsewhere, Littman turned his hand to property development; and it was a source of great satisfaction to him that in 1975 his Collette House in Piccadilly, between Bond Street and Burlington Arcade, received a commendation from Westminster City Council as a building of merit.

He was a founder member of the Society for the Study of Jewish Theology. He endowed the Littman Visiting Fellowship in Jewish theology, philosophy and law at the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies.

Synagogal life, too, received his support, as vice-chairman of the Reform Synagogues of Great Britain, and as chairman of the library committee of the Leo Baeck College.

The last years of Littman's life were dogged by illness which he bore with immense courage and dignity, helped by his wife, Collette, and their two sons.

MR KENT HARRISON

Mr Kent Harrison, FRCS, an eminent thoracic surgeon, who served on the consultant staff at St Thomas's Hospital from 1952 until his retirement in 1974, has died at the age of 80.

A Canadian, he qualified as an MD in Toronto in 1931. Just before the war he spent a year as Leverhulme Scholar at the Royal College of Surgeons.

He spent most of the war years in the Royal Army Medical Corps in the Middle East, commanding forward surgical unit no. 8 at the Battle of Alamain. He finished his

Army service with the rank of lieutenant-colonel in command of a surgical division of a general hospital.

After the war he became thoracic surgeon to the London County Council. This was the heyday of surgery for tuberculosis and the work led to his subsequent career.

After four years as consultant thoracic surgeon to Papworth and Addenbrooks hospitals, Cambridge, he went to St Thomas's, joining Norman Barrett, founding father of thoracic surgery there.

The hospital was at that time also taking its first steps in cardiac surgery, and Harrison's wide experience of pulmonary and oesophageal surgery was of great benefit.

He was, from 1952, also consultant thoracic surgeon to the Royal Navy and the Royal Army Medical Corps.

Harrison was a modest man with a gentle approach towards patients. He taught not only a whole generation of surgeons, but paid equal attention to teaching junior medical students and nurses.

His wife, Mary Maryat, a painter, died before him. He is survived by four sons and three daughters.

Brigadier Cecil Francis Drew, who won the DSO in the First World War and in the Second commanded 183 Infantry Brigade, died on December 11. He was 97.

He was educated at Highgate and the Royal Military Academy and was commissioned in 1910 into the Cameronians (Scottish Rifles), of which he commanded the 1st battalion in 1936-8. His last appointment was on the staff of GHQ Home Forces.

He was a JP in Buckinghamshire. His wife died in 1983. He is survived by a son.



Daniel Harding, aged 12, from Oxford, principal trumpet of the National Children's Orchestra, which was rehearsing for a concert at Queen Elizabeth Hall, London, last night. Daniel, who has achieved Grade 8 with distinction, was chosen to play with John Wilbraham at a Barbiere concert in aid of Shelter last month. The Princess of Wales, Patron of the children's orchestra, attended one of its rehearsals at the weekend. The NCO provides talented youngsters aged 7 to 13 with the opportunity of playing together in a full symphony orchestra (Photograph: Ros Drinkwater).

Appointments

Dr David Lipkin to be consultant cardiologist at the Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead. Dr Anthony Mann, senior lecturer in psychiatry at the hospital, to be professor of psychiatry at the University of London. Dr N. Graham, consultant psychiatrist at the hospital, to be chairman of the National Alzheimer's Disease Society.

Nature notes

In the early morning, Canada geese fly round in small, noisy flocks: their commonest call is a double honk, with a pause in the middle like the break in a yodeler's voice. They are large brown birds, with a long black neck and a white patch on the cheek. They roost on lakes but in mid winter often feed on sugar beet fields.

Woodcock spend the day in low-lying, muddy parts of oak-woods, generally well concealed by brambles and dead bracken; at night they fly out into the fields to probe for earthworms with their long beaks.

Siskins and redpolls are feeding together in the alder trees, where they deftly extract the seeds from the cones. The siskins are yellow-green; the redpolls are brown, but sometimes look almost yellow in the low sun. More cormorants are arriving inland: some of those around London have been found to come from the Welsh coast.

With the mild December, a few foxgloves still have one or two purple flowers at the top of the stem. This year's yarrow is still in flower, while the new feathery leaves of next year's plants are already pushing up.

DJM

Science report

'Nuclear winter' faced China 2,000 years ago

By Robert Matthews
Technology Correspondent

The appalling consequences of a nuclear winter may have been foreshadowed by famines in northern China more than 2,000 years ago which killed half the local population, recent work by two Nasa scientists has revealed.

Proponents of the nuclear winter claim that the vast quantity of smoke and dust thrown high into the atmosphere would blot out sunlight, plunging the world into a false winter that could persist for months, perhaps years.

Experts have known for some time that volcanic eruptions can mimic the effect on a small scale. Dr Kevin Pang and Dr James Hays of the Nasa Laboratory at the California Institute of Technology believe that the widespread famines that struck northern China in the third century BC were the result of a volcanic winter, triggered by an eruption in Iceland.

With help from Dr Hsiang-chun of the Department of East Asian Languages and Culture at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA), the two scientists discovered from ancient chronicles that a cold, wet spell struck the area in late 209 BC.

By looking at the cyclic changes in the texture of bogs

in Denmark, it emerged that there was a prolonged period of damp, wet weather around 205 BC for the whole of the northern European plain.

Then chemical analysis of ice cores taken in Greenland revealed that around this time there was a jump in the level of sulphuric acid deposited on the area, apparently by some colossal explosion in Iceland.

A volcanic eruption appeared to give the best fit to all these events. However, the two scientists decided to go to an unusual source of information to back up their claim.

They examined records showing the price of grain in various parts of China, as this would be closely linked to supplies. It was found that grain prices west of the Yellow River were twice as high as elsewhere in the northern regions, whereas the war was occurring on the other side, and to the south, of the river. This suggests that war was not to blame for the shortages.

The blame for the famines, therefore, appears to fall on the Icelandic eruption.

The ancient records also back up the claim of the proponents of the nuclear winter, that the blight lasts for months and years, rather than days. According to one Chinese chronicler the clouds and dust made "the stars invisible for three months".

Latest wills

Baron Blyton, of South Shields, Tyne and Wear, the National Union of Mineworkers' sponsored MP for Houghton-le-Spring 1945-64, left estate valued at between £40,000 and £70,000 net.

Mrs Silvia Cariona Rittson-Thomas, of Sandford St Martin, Oxfordshire, left estate valued at £3,521,581 net.

Mr Ralph Hamilton Cobbold, of Sudbourne, Suffolk, a former managing director of wine mer-

chants Justerini and Brooks, left estate valued at £67,506 net.

Mr Hugh William Farmer, of Aldernaston, Berkshire, clerk to the Drapers' Company 1952-73, left estate valued at £517,108 net.

Rear Admiral Sir Alexander Gordon Lennox, of Midhurst, West Sussex, Sergeant of Arms of the House of Commons 1952-76, left estate valued at £139,612 net.

Mrs Annie Muriel Bullivant, of Minehead, Somerset, left estate

valued at £1,809,426 net. She left £232,500 and some effects to personal legatees, and rest to St Margaret's Somerset Hospice, Taunton, the Somerset Trust for Nature Conservation, the United Cambridge Hospitals, the NSPCC, PDSA, RSPB, RSPCA and World Wildlife Fund.

Mr Eric John Percy Crawford Lombard Knight, of Sandstead, Surrey, financial entrepreneur and founder of Lombard Banking, left estate valued at £245,009 net.

REV. AUBREY HOOPER

The Rev. Aubrey Hooper, MC, a schoolmaster-priest in the style of one of the important traditions of Anglicanism, died on December 9, aged 98. For 77 years he was head of St Neots preparatory school at Eversley, Hants, and before that head of Sherbourne "Pre."

In the First World War, when he was a major in the Royal Artillery, he got to know the celebrated Rev. "Tubby" Clayton, founder of Toc H. After the war, when Clayton became one of the organizers of a "test school," designed to decide on the suitability of ex-servicemen wanting to become priests, he recruited Hooper as lay secretary. Thus began the Knutsford Fellowship, which Hooper kept in being for sixty years.

He moved into teaching and was ordained as a deacon, then, after an unusual delay of eleven years, a priest. He was in something of the "Mr Chips" mould, with an impish sense of humour, a talent for music and an absence of professional pomposity.

He was predeceased by his wife. He is survived by two sons and a daughter.

THE ARTS

Rich picking

Now is the season of smorgasbord television, a fortnight crammed with compilations which will purport to present the highlights of the year. It is normally a wearying formula but *The South Bank Show Arts Review* (ITV) took up the challenge with inspired conviction. The two hours passed quickly, with a brisk mixture of performance, clips, interviews and discussions among the audience of arts glitterati.

TELEVISION

To the *Serious Money* formula of the National Theatre for power, opera for decadence and string quartets for sensitivity were added rap for street cred and dance for a sense of momentum. The set, a pastel post-modern temple of the arts, was partially engulfed by a sculpture by David Mach, which emphasized the appealing blend of wit, innovation and gravity which was the keynote of the show.

Melvyn Bragg's interviews were succinct but telling: Peter Blake spoke glowingly of his neglect by the Royal Academy; Don McCullin said war movies were too full of killing and bad language and the Conservative MP Robert Hughes was full of brief eloquence on the need for a broadcasting standards authority. The whole was a surprisingly worthwhile exercise.

Weighty figures making fools of themselves are essential to the satirical side of Christmas; by the end of *Clive James in Japan Part 1*, (Saturday ITV), it was hard not to feel some sympathy for the great Australian wit and broadcaster as he plunged into a steaming, muddy pond and made an undignified exit from one of the mad Japanese game shows of which he has grown so fond.

The early part of the programme was less appealing. James delivered a hackneyed collection of impressions of Japan's bizarre food, alien cityscape and lemming-like businessmen streaming from office to whisky bar to whore house. Seemingly at mad foreigners will always win an audience, but although it was possible to detect admiration behind the sarcasm, it was a pity that James never modified his tone of amused condescension.

Celia Brayfield

CHRISTMAS CHARITIES

Abandoned, ill-treated, lost, injured:

The Wood Green Animal Shelter

has cared for these animals since 1924. It has a Free Clinic for the sick, it maintains a Cat Sanctuary and a Home for stray and unwanted animals at Heydon, nr. Royston, Herts, and at Godmanchester, Cambs. Visits welcome anytime. Please, help by sending a donation for the strays' Christmas dinner.

601 Lordship Lane, London, N22 5LG (Appeals Sec. Dr. Margaret Young)

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

With sincere thanks for the enfolding relief and the many last comforts you kindly helped to provide, we wish all our good friends a truly splendid Christmas.

SISTER SUPERIOR

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPICE
MADE ST. LONDON E6 4SA

COLD COMFORT

It's all very well just to feel sorry for the old and needy. Kind thoughts won't warm cold rooms or comfort the lonely. We know. We have been looking after old people and helping them to stay in their own homes for over eighty years. Every penny helps when it can mean the difference between intolerable discomfort and happy independence.

Please be a friend and send a donation - today. You can be sure it will be used efficiently to provide for the old and forgotten, wherever they are. Friends of the Elderly can only cope with a fraction of these sad cases. With your help we can do so much more to make old age a happy and dignified time - but we urgently need the funds.

Please send donations to:-
The General Secretary,
Friends of the Elderly (Dept. T),
42, Ebury Street,
LONDON SW1W 0LZ.
Registered charity number: 226604

FRIENDS OF THE ELDERLY

We also run eleven residential homes for the elderly.

Carrying on regardless



"Little and loud": With *Babes in the Wood*, Barbara Windsor has made it to the Palladium

Waving a wand and walking like a lady, Barbara Windsor is making her debut at the Palladium as the Good Fairy.

She tells Sheridan Morley how her wish was granted

This year's Palladium pantomime, only the second there since 1980 and opening tonight at a backstage cost of just over £1 million, is *Babes in the Wood*. With a cast of 50 also featuring Cannon and Ball, Marti Webb, John Inman and Derek Griffiths, it marks the debut in that theatre of Barbara Windsor, just 38 years after she played her first pantomime in Golders Green.

"I was 12 at the time, an Ada Foster Babe, though actually I'd already been part of Madame Behenna's Juvenile Jollities with Fenella Fielding. Mum sent me to Ada Foster to lose my cockney accent, though I never quite managed that. She made dresses and Dad was on the buses, but I was the only child and they had a bit put by, so I went into the business as a child and then once I'd seen what pantomime was like I never really went back to the North London convent. Reverend Mother said the Golders Green Hippodrome had ruined me.

"*Sleeping Beauty* it was, and they put me on the end of the line because I was always a bit little thing and too short for real chorus work. So I was the one allowed to say 'Here comes the Baron', but they always said I'd never make it because I was little and loud and in those days they only wanted posh people who could sing like opera stars.

"But after that first panto I got into *Love From Judy* for two years, though people forget what a tough business it used to be in those days: if you were a minute late for rehearsal, they fined you. Emile Littler kept coming to check you were still in the same make-up you used on opening night, and you weren't allowed to use the backstage lift if there were any stars in it.

"After Golders Green I didn't do a panto again until about 1955: *Red Riding Hood* that was, at Liverpool and just awful. The Dame had a heart attack at the dress rehearsal, there were rats everywhere and after we closed they tore the theatre down. Even by then they had started the cutbacks, so you only ever got about six people in the orchestra and another six doing all the singing and dancing in the chorus.

"The curious thing about panto is that the more they spend on the scenery, the less they spend on the actors or rehearsal time: even at the Palladium we only get about two weeks before the plots pretty well by now, though this is my

first Good Fairy so I'm having to practise walking like a lady and waving wands around: usually I do a very butch Aladdin or Dick Whittington.

"When I started on those in about 1970 the kids had all got a lot noisier and kept shouting 'Carry On' because that was really all they knew me for. Can you believe we're now starting on all that again, after 10 years? As soon as I finish at the Palladium I go into *Carry On Nursing*, though they say I'm too old now for the nurse so I have to be the ward sister instead. We were going to do *Carry On Dalias* but the Americans threatened to sue, so we're back to the hospital jokes instead."

Now on the verge of her fifties, a survivor of Joan Littlewood's Theatre Workshop and an uneasy first marriage, Barbara Windsor is happily remarried to a restaurant proprietor in Ayrersham and takes the view that once you have survived in Stratford East, there is not a lot they can do to you at the Palladium: "I don't usually do Fairies, but I was keen to work the Palladium even if they do all make fun of me because I take panto so very seriously."

"The scripts may all be 20 years old with a few topical updates, but at least now the fashion has gone very traditional again. For a while every scene was full of TV references and it got very boring. Five years ago I broke my arm doing an Aladdin at Bradford because the cave was so slippery, and last year for a *Dick Whittington* at Hillingdon the scenery failed to arrive on the first night, so I had to keep telling the audience what it was going to look like and then we all bought them drinks afterwards.

"But nobody can afford proper understudies now, so you just have to carry on regardless, whatever is falling about your ears, which is usually the scenery. As Joan Littlewood always said: 'Use it, darling. Use it.'

"In Nottingham I once got into the *Guinness Book of Records* for the longest-running Aladdin ever, four and a half months that was, and we had to keep changing all the Christmas jokes. But it really isn't a bad business as long as you get the right sort of Dame, preferably very crisp and clear and pure like John Inman.

"There's so much waffle in panto that when you get a really neat Dame it does help a lot, though the further south you get the worse the children behave. Then you have just to remember all the old routines: after all, it's not exactly Chekhov, is it, dearie?"

RADIO
Self critical

Even if only until February, I am sorry to see *The Radio Programme* (Radio 4, Sundays and Tuesdays) go off the air. It began last autumn and immediately established itself as one of the programmes listeners had been waiting for. A year and three full series later, it has done nothing to disappoint us: rather the reverse. If those earlier editions had a fault, it was their flirtation with the celebrity contributor and this has been if not abandoned, at least reduced to the status of casual acquaintance. The programme has stopped saying,



Laurie Taylor: never soft

by implication: "Because these big names listen to radio, it is therefore worth listening to. And because they can be heard in chat with Laurie Taylor, this broadcast is worth listening to as well." The message now is that both are worth hearing for their own sake.

This is one means by which *The Radio Programme* has overcome the difficulty radio has always had in discussing its own output. *Critics' Forum* and *Kaleidoscope* have generally paid it scant attention, selecting occasional plays or features for the customary few minutes' consideration and often enough managing to convey the impression that they were jolly lucky to be included with the big league of theatre, cinema, art, books and television.

By contrast, *The Radio Programme*, having set aside the self-deprecating implications of that first series, now never for a moment suggests that it is engaged in a second division activity. Nor does it hesitate to tread on toes, without however making that into a sadistic occasion, for it has been notably successful in recruiting members of its three-person critical panels whose judgements have been thoughtful and well-founded.

That they have made such a good showing owes an immense amount to their chairman and presenter, Laurie Taylor. He is well informed, quick of mind, resolutely uncondemned, but never soft. He has helped to create a programme that is once intelligent and popular without the slur of populization. From every point of view, then, producer Jenny Danks and her colleagues can be said to be fostering the art of radio.

The arts in general have played a very minor part in the subject matter of *The Reith Lectures* ever since they began in 1948. Music until this year has played no part at all, so Alexander Goehr's *The Survival of the Symphonist* raised welcome hopes. But the whole ancient institution of Reith Lectures continues to present obstacles which get no smaller with the years.

Radio is more than ever a medium in which the sound of one man talking for 30 minutes on end is at odds with the increasingly user-friendly aspirations of the output. Even Radio 3 avoids it.

Where the speaker is compelling, that can make the listener's task less onerous, but Professor Goehr is on the whole monotonous and my attempts to hear him through have sent me first to sleep and then to the printed text.

It reminds me though, that in talking or writing about music as here, without illustration, there is always the touch of sending a kiss by messenger, unless the readers/listeners have such a stock of music in their memories that they can fill in for themselves what the writer/speaker is referring to.

I am by no means in that category and I wonder how many people are and able to get full value from the arguments. For myself, one thread I have picked up seems to be saying that most contemporary 'serious' music is now more remote from, and antipathetic to, the average musical listener than it has ever been. It offers an experience apparently quite unconnected with earlier traditions. They have become more or less part of a shared language, but as I read Professor Goehr, I find myself wondering if what is being written now can ever do the same.

David Wade

Mozartian Shaw

You Never Can Tell
Haymarket, Leicester

It is 21 years since this lovely comedy last appeared at the Haymarket, roughly the same

THEATRE

length of time as its heroine's exile from which she returns to discover that her advanced opinions have become a back number.

In 1966, in the dawn of the feminist revival, Judy Campbell played her as an amorphous, indomitable even in defeat. As Irene Worth plays her, in these more complicated times, she no longer comes over as Madeira's answer to Germaine Greer: rather as a woman who only took to the liberationist cause as a result of marital misery, and who emerges as a traditional mother hen as soon as any of her brood seem to be in mortal danger.

It is a beautiful performance, and once you have seen it, it is hard to imagine the part being played in any other way. In other words, it re-enacts the usual Shawian miracle by which plays written out of topical issues at a particular moment in intellectual history, adapt and renew themselves for all future circumstances.

These are ponderous terms to apply to the lightest and most deliberately commercial of all Shaw's comedies. *You Never Can Tell* stands midway between *The Philanderer* and *Man and Superman* in his dramas of sexual combat; with the obvious difference that here he knew so exactly what he wanted to say that he could

The Woman in Black

Stephen Joseph
Theatre,
Scarborough

Christmas is the season for ghost stories and though the fashion for presenting them in the theatre has largely faded - victim of horror films and television - there is nothing to surpass the sudden shriek reading the air from somewhere you cannot quite place. This or that side of the stage was it? You can scarcely see for the shadows and that door, was it not locked a moment since, yes now it is slowly opening, slowly revealing...

Yes, that is the way to pass a mid-winter evening. And this full length play by Stephen Mallatratt, adapted from the book by Susan Hill, contains such classically chilling ingredients as the lonely house on the sea's edge, approachable only at low tide on the causeway through the marshes. It has sea mists that roll up without warning, townsfolk too scared to talk, gravestones, old documents and a hero who will not take shrieks for an answer but noses onward to get to the heart of the mystery.

Mallatratt has ingeniously

treat the whole thing as a delightful game: or, rather, a dance of social encounters, courtship, and ideas, coming fittingly to an end with a fancy-dress ball in harlequin costumes and false noses.

Toby Robertson's production from first to last projects this festive atmosphere. There is no mining of the text for key speech: the life of the show is in its balletic action, carried out with the precise lightness of touch that is needed to keep it airborne.

As for the laughs, there is much burnished comic dialogue but it is famously the old waiter who brings the house down with lines like "Cheese, sir?" and "Thank you, madam". Never were effects better prepared; and nowhere is there a stronger disproof that Shaw relies on clever speeches.

In this case, Michael Hordern, features wrinkled into smiles of benevolent subservience, or clutching a door post in vertigo when the terrible twins have done with him, has taken this character into a comic region where Shaw shakes hands with Mozart. If there is one moment I shall remember it is when Hordern, briefly immobilized, almost sheds tears of gratitude when somebody orders a coffee. Saul Radomsky's marine set and marae lighting almost have you breathing the ozone.

Irving Wardle

seized on the stricken hero's need to record his experiences at Red Marsh House; and he turns this into the wish to tell it to his family face to face. The first scene brings John Strickland's haunted victim, Mr Kippes, to the stage of a small theatre where a self-assured actor (Dominic Letts) prepares to give him hints on delivery.

Gradually we are eased into watching the enactment, with Letts taking over the role of Kippes when young, and Strickland playing the agitated characters he meets. The director, Robin Herford, animates the scene in a variety of ways: appealing to our imagination to picture the stage as the island, the aisle the causeway; straight naturalistic detail of a child's nursery appearing where there were formerly shrouded grave-stones; and simplest of all, changing our feelings for the scene by making an actor turn and face another way.

Too many climaxes are cut off with a blackout, dissipating the tension - echoing a tendency in the book - but the performers generate the required atmosphere of alarm, especially when Strickland's handgrip features imply unspeakable dread. And the shrieks are piercing.

Jeremy Kingston

Starring the step-sister

DANCE

Cinderella/
Royal Ballet
Covent Garden

I have never seen Cynthia Harvey give a dud performance. Some roles she seizes and lights up with an entirely personal interpretation. To others, even if less individual, she brings a quiet intelligent skill. Cinderella, which she danced for the first time on Saturday night, lies in the middle of her range.

There were moments when a glance or a nuance of movement looked illuminatingly right; but others when she seemed to let the role itself take over and concentrated on simply presenting it. This was her first time on stage after six months' absence caused by an injury during the Royal Ballet's Russian tour, so it may well be that she will grow in the part.

Jay Jolley was her Prince: they have a good rapport and, although he can no longer do the steps as vigorously or precisely as Jonathan Cope did earlier in the week, Jolley shows more dash, more flair in presentation, more concern with character.

I must confess that some aspects of this production make me wonder how interested the Royal Ballet is in the ballet's meaning. Tracy Brown, for instance, dances with a sunny brightness; but isn't it odd to cast so young (and young looking) a dancer as the fairy godmother?

One problem is that the music is so stodgily played. I imagine this is not only Isaiah Jackson's fault: the Covent Garden orchestra have a reputation for taking ballet nights less seriously than operas, and may feel that having put themselves out for Haitink and Svirinsky is enough for one season. But



No exaggeration or fancy tricks: David Bintley stepping out

there certainly is no galvanizing influence at work here, and you would hardly know that this is, when properly played, much the best of Prokofiev's long ballet scores.

David Bintley's playing of the more timid step-sister remains the one real star performance, and what is particularly pleasing is that he does it without any exaggeration or fancy tricks.

He and Derek Deane have

John Percival

Missing the spirit

CONCERT

Philharmonia/
Giulini
Festival Hall

interpret the spirit of the "Rhenish" so completely that technical success seemed irrelevant. A work that celebrates impulse, whimsy, youthful artlessness and surging high spirits, was made to sound ponderous and portly. Of course, the great neo-Bachian "Cologne Cathedral" slow movement worked wonderfully (in fact, it sounded remarkably similar to

Giulini's conception of the B Minor Mass), but five slowish movements in succession is at least three too many.

Schumann's *Manfred* overture proved a much apter receptacle for Giulini's brand of elegant melancholy, even if there were moments when the whole orchestra seemed to be waiting for someone else to start playing.

However, Radu Lupu made a very pallid impression in Schumann's Piano Concerto. No sparkle, no risk, no joy, no wit - it was efficient, but this (usually) most poetic of pianists is surely not satisfied with mere efficiency.

Richard Morrison

TELEVISION CHOICE

● "You're a colleague from John's school?" "Yes." "What do you teach?" "Children." Well, it is nearly Christmas and this little gem comes from the 50-minute seasonal edition of *Dear John* (BBC, 8.10pm). Sounding a sitcom beyond its customary hour, the show is usually a first disaster but in this case it works well. I would even say that it is an improvement. Restricted to its single set of the 1-2-1 Club for the divorced and separated, *Dear John* often seemed staid and repetitive. Here, the writer John Sullivan opens the show out and lets it breathe. Pounding round his flat like Tony Hancock, with shoulders hunched and the fatalism of the eternal loser, John (Ralph Ineson) is a far cry from the decorations ("the people in Norway forget to send me a tree this year") and faces the prospect of spending Christmas Day by himself. So his chums would love to see him but they are already committed. But he won't really be



alone, will he? No, he lies, he has had dozens of invitations. Then a broken leg on a Rugby field leads to a call from his ex-wife and an offer he cannot easily refuse. Sullivan's script is hardly a laugh a minute but it has a nicely worked out plot, a few good jokes, and a story up in a tidy, though unexpected, conclusion. On

Peter Waymark

Radio 3

4.35 pm Test Match Special
Final day of the Third Test,
Pakistan v England. Until
6.05 am On My Mind
VHF, but on MW only from
6.35 am

6.55 Morning News: Domenico
Zipoli (Suite in F: Maurice
Ravel, trumpet; Jean-
François Paillard (Piano
Orchestra), Martucci
(Nocturne: LSC under
Charles Mackerras)
(Symphony in B flat: Belgian
RSO) **8.00 News Bulletin**

8.05 The World at Two
on theme by Tallis;
Messiah (Les Enfants de
Dieu; David Trawnor,
organist); Wolf (Aurora
Christiane I., with Olaf Ba-
bertonne); Handel (Pastoral
sequence from Messiah;
Lilla-Lobos arrangement of
Bach works including
Prelude in G major, BWV
971; Minuet in A major,
BWV 994); and Dyson (Hail
to the Conqueror; Choir of St
Catherine's College,
Cambridge)

4.10 Segovia: Ponce's Concerto

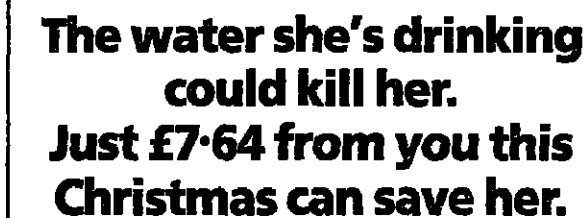
Radio 2

MW (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (See Radio 1)
News on the hour. Sports Round-Up 5.50am
4.00am Colin Berry 5.30 Ray Moore 7.30 Derek Jameson 8.30 Ken Bruce 11.00 Angela Rippon 1.05pm David Jacobs 2.00 Gloria Hunniford (flashback through children's TV) 3.30 Adrian Love 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Alan Dell with Dance Band Days, and at 7.30. Big Band Era 8.30 BBC Big Band 5.00 Humphrey Lyttelton (Jazz on record)
10.00 Jazz Score 10.30 Star Sound (Movie requests) 11.00 Brian Matthew 1.00 Patrick Lunt 3.00-4.00 A Little Night Music.

WORLD SERVICE

[illegible]

RADIO CHOICE



The water this woman is drinking could be fatal. It's a deadly carrier for diseases like cholera, typhoid and dysentery.

Over 80% of sick people in the Third World suffer from diseases related to contaminated water supplies.

Now you can do something about it. Help the Aged is funding new community wells to ensure entire villages benefit from a clean, safe water supply.

A single well can cost £1,000. But as little as £7.64 from you this Christmas can give one villager a clean water supply for life. So please give for Christmas today — either by returning the coupon or, if you prefer to order) to your Access or Visa account, phone (01) 253 0253, extension 345.

To: Help the Aged, Project 70603, FREEPOST, London EC1R 1BD
Yes, I'd like to contribute this Christmas to a safe water supply
for an entire community. Please accept my cheque/postal order
of £50 ☐ £25 ☐ £15-24 ☐ £5-14 ☐ Other sum £

Important: If you prefer to charge your donation to your
Access or Visa card, please phone (01) 253 0253 and ask for
extension 345.

Help the Aged

THE TIME TO CARE IS NOW

Peter Davalle

BBC1

6.00 **Cee-eez AM.** News headlines, weather, travel and sports bulletins.

6.35 **Clark and McCulloch** in *Kidding the Crown* around 6.55 **Weather.**

7.00 **Breakfast Time** with Sally Magnusson and Jeremy Paxman. Includes the national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news and travel reports at 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25.

8.40 **Open Air** with BBC Northern Ireland's Youth Department. To choose a cartoon or talk to the special guests ring 061-814 0424. 8.55 **Regional News** and weather.

9.00 **News** and weather followed by *Neighbours* (r). 9.25 **Open Air.** A chance to talk to Philip Schofield and Anna Home, head of BBC Children's Television. Includes news and weather at 10.00.

10.25 **Children's BBC.** Andy Crane with programme news and birthday greetings followed by *Play School*, presented by Elizabeth Watts and Robert Kison. 10.50 **Open Air.** A report on the morning's phone calls.

10.55 **News** and weather followed by Laurence Olivier 11.00 **News** and weather followed by *Open Air*. Two teams join Gordon Burns for a *Krypton Factor* contest. 11.25 **Don't You...?** with the new Belfast gang 11.45 **Open Air** links Belfast with London.

12.00 **News** and weather followed by *Charlie's Life*. Today's edition of the magazine programme includes *True Love* with seasonal culinary advice 12.55

Regional news and weather, 1.00 **On Clock** News. Michael Buerk, *Weather* 1.30 *Neighbours*, Mike, *Charlie* and Scott are reunited on *Manly Beach* 1.50 *Going for Gold*, the first semi-final of the European general knowledge quiz presented by Henry Kelly.

2.18 **International Show** jumping from Olympia. Highlights of last night's *Fancy Dress* and *Grand Prix: 3.05 The Pink Panther Show* (r). 3.25 *The Olden Days'* Coat. A relic from the past changes Christmas for an unhappy young girl.

3.30 **Lesnel and Jelen.** Cartoon version (r). 4.00 *Witzman* with Paul Daniels (r). 4.10 *Robbin* 4.20 *Ewoks* 4.40 *Simon and the Witch*. Episode 11.

4.55 **Newarounds** with Helen Robinson and John Carver 5.05 *Blue Peter*. Mark Curry tells the story of an unusual Christmas gift presented in 1935 to the people of Britain.

5.35 **MasterMinds.** The final of the quiz game for teams, presented by Angela Rippon.

6.00 *Six O'Clock News* with Sue Lawley and Nicholas Witchell. **Weather.**

6.35 **London Plus.**

7.00 **Wogan.** Tonight's guests include Raymond Burr, John Savelston and Lynn Faye Wood. *Dame City Wanderers* and the *Ellen Colgate Choir*.

7.25 **Toys for Christmas.** Highlights of the Variety Club of Great Britain's lunch at the Hilton Hotel to collect toys for underprivileged children.

8.10 **Dear John.** (Cee-eez) (see Choice).

8.40 **Nine O'Clock News** with Martyn Lewis and Debbie Thrower. Regional news and weather.

9.00 **Film: The Woman in Red** (1954) stars Gene Wilder, Katy Le Brock, Joseph Bologna and Glida Radner. A comedy about a man who catches a glimpse of his perfect woman and sets off in pursuit despite the objections of his wife and his office paramour. Directed by Gene Wilder. (Cee-eez)

10.55 **A Perfect Spy.** A repeat of last Wednesday's final episode. (Cee-eez)

11.55 **Weather.**

BBC2

9.00 *Ceefax*.

11.50 *Film: Tarzan and His Mate* (1934, b/w) starring Johnny Weissmuller and Maureen O'Sullivan. Two hunters threaten the lady's existence as Tarzan and Jane. Directed by Cedric Gibbons. **1.20** *Songs of Fraise (r)*. (*Ceefax*)

2.00 *News and weather followed by American Basketball*. The Los Angeles Lakers meet the Boston Celtics (r).

2.45 *News and weather followed by Fred Astaire*. The second of two musicals celebrating the career of the late entertainer. **3.40** *News, regional news and weather*.

3.50 *Film: Three Little Words* (1950) starring Fred Astaire, Vera-Ellen and Red Skelton. A musical about the 1920s songwriting team of Bert Kalmar and Harry Ruby. Directed by Richard Thorpe. **4.00** *Ceefax*.

5.30 *Jack Hill. The Gateway Masters Vows Tournament*.

6.00 *Film: Forbidden Planet* (1956) starring Walter Pidgeon and Anne Francis. Science fiction adventure about a sparsely populated planet that holds a deadly secret. Directed by Fred McLeod Wilcox. **7.35** *Cartoon*.

7.40 *Talking Loud*. From Boston, Mass., Bruce Fret, Constance Harper, Anthony Quinn and Roger Wilkins discuss American democracy.

8.30 *Ventures: To Raise the Wind*. The financial side of the service business.

9.00 *Absurd Person Singular* by Alan Ayckbourn. A comedy about three couples who celebrate three Christmas Eves together in three different kitchens. (r).

10.55 *The Million Dollar Hijack*. The first of a two part thriller with a New York airport worker with heavy debts who has the chance of stealing a million dollars. Starring Peter Bonegart. In German with English subtitles.

12.20 *Film: The Blitter Tree of General Zerk* 1932 starring Barbara Stanwyck and Mills Astor. An American woman arrives in strife-torn China to marry a missionary but becomes infatuated with a warlord. Directed by Frank Capra.

1.45 *Weather*.

ITV/LONDON

6.00 TV-am. Cartoons and other family entertainment including, between 8.00 and 8.50, Good Morning Britain.

9.25 Thames news headlines.

9.30 Puddle Lane. Puppet series presented by Neil Innes 9.45 Video & Cassettes include a look at what will be seen with video as presents 100 years from now 10.15 Children's Christmas Preview with Gary Terzza and Debbie Shore 10.25 News headlines 10.30 Santa Breaks

11.00 Films: Winnie the Pooh and Friends. Walt Disney's animated version of A.A.Milne stories, narrated by Sebastian Cabot 11.25 The Scales of Justice. Drama serial about an Australian fairy about the 1940s

12.30 News with John Snow 12.50 Thames news

1.00 Films: Battle of Midway (1976) starring Charlton Heston and Henry Fonda. Second World War drama about a 1942 battle in the Pacific which was the might of the Japanese fleet sailed to Midway Island where an under-strength US Naval base, which has learned of the impending disaster. Directed by Jack Smight.

3.25 Thames news headlines 3.30 The Young Doctors. Medical drama series set in a large Australian city

4.00 Disney at Christmas. Two cartoons, The Worm Turns and Three for Breakfast (r).

4.15 Pure Strength 767 presented by Bruce Forsyth. Games of Great Britain. Bill Kazmaier of the United States and Iceland's Páll Sigmarsson in a test of strength in the grounds of Huntly Castle near Aberdeen

5.15 Blockbusters. General knowledge game for teenagers, presented by Bob Holness.

5.45 News with Fiona Armstrong 5.50 Thames news

6.30 Geldof: Back to Ethiopia. Bob Geldof returns to drought-stricken

and famine-threatened Ethiopia

7.00 The Krypton Factor. The Group D final features competitors from Cambridge, Solihull, Liverpool and Darlington. Presented by Gordon Burns. (Oracle)

7.30 Conscience. Street Hilda. A series of sketches with real life Mavis Rights for her reputation as a clean-living spinster. (Oracle)

8.00 Wish You Were Here...? A Spain series with reports from John Carter on the Coast of Brava, Judith Chalmers in Majorca and Annika Rice at a purpose-built sports resort. (Oracle)

8.30 Home Jams for Christmas. Situation comedy. (Oracles) with David and George Sewell.

9.15 North and South, Book II. The first part of the final episode of the drama series set against the background of the American Civil War. Starring David Carradine, Mary Crosby and Lesley-Anne Down. (Oracle) (continues after the news)

10.00 News at Ten and weather followed by Thames news headlines.

10.30 North and South, Book II. The final episode of the drama series.

12.15 i Spy. Vintage American espionage series starring Robert Culp and Bill Cosby.

1.15 Sports Special: Euro Hockey: USA v Russia: Football: round-up of European competitions.

2.30 News headlines followed by Topical News and comedy series.

3.00 The Little Foxes (1941 b/w) starring Bette Davis and Herbert Marshall. Drama, set in a small southern state town at the turn of the century, about a woman who sacrifices her husband's life and the affection of her family because of her ambition for wealth and social status. Directed by William Wyler.

5.00 ITN World News 5.30 CNN Headline News. Ends at 6.00.

CHANNEL 4

9.25 After Daric: Has the Mafia Taken Over the World? John Underwood presents a studio discussion. Among those taking part are David Mead, Gale Savello and former intelligence officer Alex Manson (r).

12.00 Business Daily.

12.30 A Winter Story. A cartoon from Walt Disney with Betty Fox (r) 1.00

Sesame Street. Learning series for pre-school children.

2.00 Alltimepieces. The first of three programmes about German alttimepieces created in the 16th and early 18th centuries. Featured today is Michael Pacher's work of 1480 for the church of St Wolfgang am Wolfgangsee in Austria.

2.30 Film: The Desert Song (1953) starring Kathryn Grayson and Gordon MacRae. Musical set in the North African desert about a dashing leader of the Rif who falls in love while fighting a villainous sheikh. Directed by Bruce Hanmberger.

4.30 Ocean.

5.00 The Monsters (b/w). Vintage American comedy series about a ghoulish family.

5.30 The Beverly Hills Bitch (b/w).

6.00 Making the Most Of... Cycling and cycle maintenance, bat work and conservation are this week's features (r).

6.30 Education Extra examines preschool education and adult education opportunities.

7.00 Channel 4 News.

7.50 Comment followed by Weather.

8.00 Brookside. Bobby and Sheila set off for Sheila's sister in the car but Bobby's boss of Christmas spirit leads to a change of plan (Orie).

8.30 The Horne in Sport. Part seven — harness racing.

9.30 Never Say Die. The final episode of the comedy series.

10.00 Hill Street Blues. Belker has the problem of finding out which identical twin is a jewel thief.

11.00 The Elvener and the White Television. Peter Brady's alternative television station.

12.05 Racine of the West. A spoof "scratch video".

12.15 The Desires. Desire for Drink is the first animated story based on the tales of Giovanni Boccaccio. Ends at 12.30.

ATIONS

[illegible]

Feedback

LW (long wave), (S) Stereo on VHF
5.55 Shipping Forecast
News Briefing: Weather
5.10 Framing 6.25 Prayer (S)
6.30 Today, Incl 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary 6.45 Business News 6.55, 7.55 Weather 7.55, 8.55 Sport 7.55, 8.55 Sport 4.45 Thought for the Day
6.55 The Week on 4: programme trailers, presented by Laurie Macmillan
6.42 Ian Siddons goes into the BBC Sound Archives 6.57 Weather Travel
6.50 News bulletin
6.55 Start the Week: Russell Harty anticipates the week ahead with his studio guests (S)
10.00 News: Money Box: presented by Louise Belling
10.30 Morning Story, East Sunday and the Christmas Turkey, by John Hunt. The reader is Donald Crowley
10.45 Daily Service from St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, conducted by the Rev Stephen Lymington
11.00 News: Travel: Down Your Way: Dancer Wayne Sleep goes on a tour of Covent Garden where he has danced and worked for 20 years (S)
11.50 Poetry Present: Presented by Vernon Scannell. The readers are Michael Horley and Rosalind Shanks (S)
12.00 News: You and Yours: presented by John Howard (S), by James Fother. Serial in three parts (third and final episode). The Largest Moving Object on the Face of the Planet, Stanley Dryden and Anthony Hewlett (S) 12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One
1.40 The Archers 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 News: Woman's Hour: presented by Jenni Murray, includes Brenda Bruce and Trevor Nichols reading the first of seven stories from Susan Mackay's Dreams of Dead Women's Handbags and Other Stories
3.00 News: Crisp and Even Brightly, by Nick Brown. The truth (T) behind the much-loved Christmas carol about Good King Wenceslas. With Timothy West (as the king) and James (as the page) (T) (S) See Choice
4.15 Bequeathed by the Boats: Extracts from the diary of Anne Kingwell who was caught in the siege of

Kimberley in 1899, when she was 12. Introduced by her great-nephew, John Kingwell. Anne Kingwell played by Shelia Goss (Kaleidoscope: Traditional Hays. Part two of Andy Kershaw's programme which hunts down the traditional music of Britain and meets some of the people who are still playing it)
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 6.55-6.00 Weather
6.00 News, and Financial Report 6.30 The News: Barry Town hosts the topical quiz, with teams led by Alan Coren and Ian Hastop (S)
7.00 News bulletin
7.05 The Archers
7.20 The Food Programme: Derek Cooper with his special selection of pure food at a fair price
7.45 Science Now: Peter Evans reports on the visit of the British Psychological Society's recent winter conference
8.15 I Could Have Been King. I. Brian Glanville, with Martin Jarvis as C B Fry, captain the English cricket team, classical scholar and international figure, who was offered the throne of Albania. The action spans his Oxford undergraduate days to his old age in London. The cast also includes Sam Barnet, James Cleson, Terry Rave and Laurence Payne (S)
9.30 Letter from Ethiopia: Richard Cox reflects on the famine which is again overtaking the country
9.45 Kaleidoscope: presented by Michael Oliver. The items are discussed and introduced by Ian McKellen acting Shakespeare, at the Playhouse Theatre, London and the English National Opera production of *Hamlet* and *Great*, at the Coliseum London
10.15 A Book at Bedtime: Jackie Kay reads, by Norman Lewis (episode 1) (T) 12, Read by Ray Smith
10.30 The World Tonight: presented by Richard Kershaw
11.15 The Financial World Tonight 11.30 Today in Parliament 12.00 News: Weather
12.00 News: as above except: 1.55-2.00pm Listening to the Past with Alvin Stardust (S) 6.50-6.55 PM (continued)

Radio 1:1063kHz/109kHz/330m; Radio 3:

dio 4: 200kHz/1500m: VHF 92-95; LBC: 11520kHz/201m: VHF 91-93; C&G
1548kHz/194m: VHF 95-9; BBC Radio London: 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94-9
Wireless Services: MF 64RkHz/463m.

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Riots a threat to festival

ALL MERCHANDISE IS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. SOME LINES ARE AVAILABLE AT LARGER BRANCHES ONLY.

Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET
(Change on week)

FT 30 Share
1377.8 (+67.1)

FT-SE 100
1717.0 (+65.4)

Bargains
28077 (23258)

USM (Datastream)
133.49 (+4.8)

THE POUND
(Change on week)

US dollar
1.9260 (-0.0125)

W German mark
2.9837 (-0.0149)

Trade-weighted
75.5 (-0.6)

US NOTEBOOK

Consumer spending fall boosts bonds

From Maxwell Newton
New York

The United States may be on the verge of a breakthrough into zero growth of real consumption followed by a sharp fall of imports. Sensing a stronger dollar and a victory over inflation, the bond market rallied strongly on Friday.

The December quarter may be the first showing a decisive break with the growth of real personal consumption spending that has fuelled three-quarters of the US economic recovery since the fourth quarter of 1982.

Estimates based on October and November sales data for retail sales and for car sales indicate real personal consumption may fall at an annual rate of 2 to 3 per cent.

October-November real retail sales were down 2.5 per cent on the September quarter average, while car sales in the first seven 10-day periods of the current quarter were running 25 per cent below the third quarter average.

To add to the uncertainty, initial unemployment insurance claims rose sharply in the week of December 5.

The wild card is a boom in plant and equipment spending. These expenditures, flat since the third quarter of 1984, suddenly took off in the third quarter of this year, rising at an annual rate of about 20 per cent with a further rise in 1988 expected at more than 7 per cent.

This is a reflection of the growing confidence of US exporters. Exports of goods and services rose 11.5 per cent in the year to the third quarter, almost twice the 6 per cent rise of import volumes. In the third quarter alone, export volume rose an astonishing 23.7 per cent a year.

Such achievements are obscured by the continuing boom in imports. But if, as seems likely, real personal consumption growth has turned negative, imports, already overloaded with stocks, will be cutting back sharply.

Domestic inflation is certainly not a threat to US exporters' plans. In November, producer (wholesale) prices were unchanged and the consumer price index rose 0.3 per cent. Wages growth is very subdued. The Commodity Research Bureau index of commodity futures prices is below the level of February 1985, when the immense dollar devaluation began.

An important reason for this so far successful resistance to the potentially inflationary effects of the massive devaluation has been the freeze on money growth by the Fed from January.

The annual growth rate of money M2, 11.1 per cent in the third quarter of 1986, had fallen to 3 per cent in this third quarter. Money growth in the fourth quarter has remained negligible in "real" terms as the Fed has clawed back all the cash splurged in the post-October 19 panic.

The extreme nature of the Fed's policy has led to a campaign by monetarists. Mr Beryl Sprinkel, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, has said the policy will lead to recession.

The monetarists have always supported a freely fluctuating dollar and they detect the Louvre accord.

The underpinnings for a much stronger dollar in 1988 are being laid, and for a highly aggressive American invasion of world markets in 1988 and 1989.

As the perception of weakening demand and negligible inflation spreads, interest rates are once again coming down.

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Texaco settles Pennzoil fight

Four-year dispute ends in record \$5.5bn deal

By Richard Thomson

The four-year legal battle between Texaco Inc, the US oil giant, and Pennzoil over the acquisition of Getty Oil ended yesterday when Texaco agreed to pay a record \$5.5 billion (£3 billion) to settle the \$10.3 billion dispute.

The out-of-court settlement was reached on Saturday after a marathon 48-hour negotiating session between lawyers representing Texaco and Pennzoil.

It includes \$3 billion to be paid directly to Pennzoil. A further \$2.5 billion will go to Texaco's creditors who had remained unpaid when the company filed for protective bankruptcy under Chapter 11 of the bankruptcy code last April to escape enforcement of a \$10.3 billion court judgement against it.

The settlement will be filed in the bankruptcy court where it will have to be approved by the court and Texaco's shareholders.

It ends the battle over Texaco's purchase of Getty Oil in January 1984.

A Texas civil court jury awarded Pennzoil \$10.3 billion in damages earlier this

year when it found that Texaco had wrongfully interfered with an earlier agreement Pennzoil had with Getty Oil to buy the company itself. Texaco filed for bankruptcy after the decision.

The settlement is a coup for Mr Carl Icahn, the financier and chairman of Trans World Airlines Inc, who controls 12.3 per cent of Texaco and owns a block of Pennzoil stock. Together, the two stakes are worth more than \$500 million.

After the companies had repeatedly failed to reach a settlement, Mr Icahn took matters into his own hands and travelled to Pennzoil's headquarters in Houston.

He persuaded the chairman, Mr J. Hugh Liedtke, to drop his settlement demand from \$4 billion to \$3 billion.

Mr Icahn was helped by increasing shareholder pressure on the Texaco management to settle following its decision to apply for Chapter 11 bankruptcy.

The prospect of an imminent settlement to the dispute caused a sharp rise in the value of both companies'

shares last Friday. Texaco closed 2½ points up at 38½ while Pennzoil rose 4½ points to 79½.

Mr Alfred DeCrane, chairman of Texaco, said that the company would have to finance some of the settlement and payment to creditors out of asset sales. These would form part of a larger scale restructuring of the company to help it emerge from bankruptcy.

Restructuring measures would include the redemption of highly priced debt as well as sales of assets.

Mr DeCrane said that once out of bankruptcy Texaco, the third largest US oil company, would be able to start competing again with others in the oil industry on equal terms.

He added that the company had not yet decided whether to reinstate the 75 cents a share quarterly dividend which was cancelled when it filed for bankruptcy.

Experts believe the asset sales could include Texaco Canada, worth about \$2 billion and its 50 per cent stake in Caltex, a joint venture with Chevron Corp, worth \$3 billion.

Britoil will press Panel to bar bid on two counts

By Our City Staff

Britoil, the subject of an unwelcome £2.27 billion bid from British Petroleum, will today submit its arguments to the Takeover Panel on why the bid should be disallowed.

The full Panel, which will meet tomorrow to consider the offer, written submissions to the Panel are due at midday today.

NM Rothschild & Co, acting for Britoil, and J Henry Schroder Wages, for BP, were finalising their submissions yesterday.

Because of the Government's golden share in Britoil, designed to prevent any bidder from gaining overall control of the company, the Panel decision is seen as breaking new ground.

NM Rothschild is expected to emphasize Rule 10 and Principle 3 of the Takeover Code.

Rule 10 states that an offer

cannot become unconditional unless shares carrying more than 50 per cent of the voting rights have been acquired, or agreement has been reached to acquire them. In theory, a golden share which prevents control of the board changing hands limits the acquisition of voting rights to less than 50 per cent.

Principle 3 says that an offer

Analysis 20

should be announced for a company "only when the offeror has every reason to believe that it can and will continue to be able to implement the offer." Britoil's adviser will argue that BP was not in this position when it announced its bid on Friday, because of the golden share arrangements.

But Mr Bill Samuel of Schroders said yesterday that the key element of the Panel

decision was the acceptance conditions contained in the BP offer, and whether the golden share would be included or excluded from the 50 per cent requirement.

Mr Samuel added that there had been extensive discussions between BP and Takeover Panel officials before Friday's bid announcement. He said that the bid had been launched after the "careful and responsible consideration" required under the Takeover Code.

Meanwhile, the Stock Exchange will this week examine the circumstances surrounding the Treasury's announcement on Friday that it would be using the golden share to stop BP gaining control.

Some market-makers did not immediately realize that the announcement was official because it was not carried on the Stock Exchange Topic information system.

3i seeks quick B-Cal decision

By Graham Serjeant, Financial Editor

Investors in Industry, the dominant shareholder in British Caledonian, is anxious for the B-Cal board to make a decision before Christmas on the rival offers from British Airways and the Scandinavian Airlines System. This has put pressure on Mr Jan Carlzon, SAS chairman, to improve his offer of £110 million for 23.5 per cent of B-Cal.

Mr Helge Lindberg, the SAS negotiator, has returned to Stockholm for talks, which are

likely to lead to an increase in the offer for a minority stake in B-Cal early this week.

The Scandinavian airline, however, is worried that it has little room for manoeuvre.

The Civil Aviation Authority agreed that the offer SAS finally formulated would not constitute foreign control of B-Cal but stressed this judgement would not necessarily apply to any alternative form.

There is some anxiety at BA that 3i may try to conduct a

last-minute auction. BA sent out its revised offer to B-Cal shareholders on Friday.

It has not ruled out a further increase in its £200 million bid for the whole of B-Cal. If the SAS offer is substantially increased, however, BA may opt to step up its political pressure against the SAS deal.

BA has already demanded CAA hearings on possible removals of B-Cal's route licenses should the SAS deal proceed.

USM REVIEW

'Bobby Bear' tests his theory

By Michael Clark

Mr Bob Morton, chairman of the fully-quoted Burgess Group, was not caught on the hop like so many others by the stock market crash. He claims to have seen it coming for some time.

His views on the outlook for the market remain pessimistic, earning him the nickname "Bobby Bear." He is convinced the bear market still has some way to run but will provide him with some lucrative business ventures.

Last week he decided to put this theory to the test. Casting aside the recent crisis, he took time off from Burgess to announce the launch of his latest company on the Unlisted Securities Market, Hatfield Estates, the building contractor and property developer, where dealings start today.

Hatfield is Mr Morton's second USM listing. The first was Norank, which used to manufacture record display cases for shops, and first came to the USM three years ago at 90p. It was eventually taken over by Spong Holdings in a £10 million deal valuing Norank's shares at 230p each. Now Mr Morton is hoping for similar success with Hatfield.

Guidehouse Securities is placing 750,000 shares (10 per cent) in Hatfield at 100p a share, valuing the entire company at £7.5 million.

The group hopes to raise £580,000 from the placing and £475,000 will be retained by the company while the remaining £105,000 goes to existing shareholders. Mr Morton has decided to hang on to all his 1.97 million shares,

amounting to 26.35 per cent of the total. Hatfield's interests in the building industry extend to both the public and private sectors. The bulk of its property developments are in and around North London and Hertfordshire.

The group is currently undertaking building work worth an estimated £3 million and expects to attract an extra £1.5 million of business from its property developments. It is also in the running for work on the Lairage site at Hitchin, Hertfordshire, worth another £3 million.

The business is a cyclical one and although Hatfield has now undertaken several major developments, none is due

USM prices 22

for completion in the current financial year to August 31. Perhaps it might explain the group's erratic trading record. Pretax profits in 1983 stood at £76,000 and fell to just £20,000 the following year only to recover to £425,000 in 1985, then slump to £126,000 in 1986.

In the year to last August, as it paved the way for its USM quote, it turned in its best-ever performance with pretax profits of £1.61 million. The directors have decided against making a profit forecast for the current year.

The USM has been instrumental since its inception seven years ago in helping to develop new industries by creating "mini sectors" within which those

companies can flourish. In the early days, the USM was made up mainly of oil companies. After a few years the emphasis switched to computer and high-tech firms. Other sectors have since been created including, believe it or not, funeral directors.

According to Mr Geoffrey Douglas, analyst at Hoare Govett, the broker, this can offer major opportunities to "the first few companies on to the public stage," helping them with expansion via acquisition and the development of a broader business base. The latest "mini sector" to grab the attention of Mr Douglas and his USM team is the shopfit market.

He estimates that the sector is probably worth at least £750 million. The four main constituents are Havelock Europa, which recently moved up to a full quote, Campbell & Armstrong, Plumb Holdings and Sharp & Law.

All three USM companies have been hitting the takeover trail recently and last week Sharp & Law was suspended at 155p while it worked out details of another acquisition. Campbell & Armstrong bought Kaymar Industrial Furniture and Apollo Space Systems for £2.1 million last week taking the group number of acquisitions this year to three.

According to Mr Douglas, they should provide a big boost to turnover. He expects sales to rise from £6.9 million to £21 million this year followed by £41 million next time. He says the shares look cheap on a prospective p/e of 8.7, falling to below 7 next year.



Ship-shape: Cochrane's Ken Marshall and the Thorneilla (Photograph by Chris Harris)

Fishing launches a recovery

At about 8 o'clock this morning (depending on the vagaries of the tide in the Yorkshire Ouse), Cochrane Shipbuilders will launch the biggest trawler built in Britain for more than a decade, at its Selby yard, 70 miles from the sea.

The 126-foot Thorneilla, the first of a £5 million order for two trawlers from J Marr (Fishing) of Hull, one of the traditional Humber-side family fishing groups, is a sign of a modest recovery in the British fishing industry.

This recovery follows a long

decline after the loss of Icelandic fishing waters.

For Mr Ken Marshall, the managing director of Cochrane, it also marks the timely return of the yard to its traditional market, having diversified to build 32 off-shore support vessels for the then booming North Sea oil business.

"We face a constant fight for new orders," Mr Marshall says.

"The Marr ships may be based on the River Humber, but the order for them was

won in the face of fierce international competition."

He is particularly pleased to see a revival of orders from the local fishing fleet.

Cochrane, part of the North British Maritime group, has kept going better than most other yards, building anything from tugs to Isle of Wight ferries.

It still has 400 employees, is about to deliver two tugs to British owners and has orders for a further three tugs.

But it will still need more orders in six months' time.

Li to sell Cluff stake to Hutchison

Hong Kong (Renter)

Hutchison Whampoa has said it plans to acquire from Mr Li Ka-shing, its chairman, a 14.3 per cent stake in Cluff Oil for £6.7 million. The company said it will buy 2 million ordinary shares of 25p each from Mr Li, at a cost of £50.2 million, and the entire issued share capital of and

shareholder's loans to Marino Equities for a further £4.5 million. Marino holds 4.05 million Cluff shares.

Hutchison said it will also underwrite a one-for-10 rights issue of about 4.22 million new Cluff shares at £1.18 each. The underwriting of the rights issue is conditional upon Cluff shareholders' approval. Trad-

ing in the new shares will begin on the unlisted securities market by January 31.

If Hutchison were to subscribe all of the shares under the rights issue, its interest in the enlarged share capital of Cluff will rise to 23.1 per cent. Two Hutchison directors will join the Cluff board upon completion of the rights issue.

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No boardroom division at TSB, Read says

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Sir John Read, the chairman of TSB Group, yesterday hit back at continued stories of a boardroom split at the TSB and inflated fees to be paid to Lazard Brothers, the merchant bank.

Weekend reports said that Sir John had been called in for an interview with Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Governor of the Bank of England, over the Lazard fees. There were suggestions that TSB directors were unhappy about the size of the fee being negotiated with Lazard by Sir John and Sir Ian Frazer, a director of both the TSB and Lazard.

"Naturally," Sir John said, "I have spoken to a very senior official at the Bank of England — though not the Governor — about the suggestion that I am involved in some price-fixing arrangement with Lazard over their fees. I brought the subject up in the course of more general discussions because it is a very serious matter, indeed. It is nonsense to suggest the Bank called me in about it."

The fee covers Lazard's handling of the £777 million purchase of Hill Samuel and the abortive £282 million bid for Hogg Robinson.

Sir John said: "No fee has finally been settled, but half a per cent is perfectly normal for

these sorts of transactions so I cannot see what all the fuss is about." It appears that the two banks are currently discussing a fee of around £3 million, well below 0.5 per cent of the combined value for the two deals.

"The suggestion that the board is against myself and Sir Ian is also nonsense," Sir John insisted. At a board meeting last Thursday, the TSB directors confirmed unanimously, both individually and collectively, their support for Sir John and Sir Ian. The two men were not present at the meeting.

"We are still considering legal action against *The Observer*, which has taken a lead in publishing these stories," Sir John said. "Saying that the board does not like my management style is one thing, but accusing me of being involved in fixing Lazard's fees is a very serious thing, indeed."

Sir John blamed the reports on an "old-guard" of TSB executives and retired executives who had not wanted the bank to be floated on the stock market, and did not like the direction in which it is now going. "It is the old guard trying to put pressure on Sir Ian and me. They are trying to hustle us," Sir John said.

EEC criticized for freight plan delay

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

Common Market transport ministers have been condemned for "procrastinating" over reforms to liberalize the movement of goods in the EEC.

A meeting of the Council of Transport Ministers last week postponed until their next meeting any action on steps which transport interests view as essential to a liberalized market by 1992.

They are particularly concerned that moves to increase

the number of Community haulage permits by 40 per cent have been postponed, that government control of haulage rates is to remain, and that discussion of arrangements to allow national hauls to be carried out by non-resident companies has been deferred.

Mr Garry Turvey, director of the Freight Transport Association in Britain, said: "The meeting of the ministers made a mockery of government calls to be more European."

Oil industry shake-out could see the independents sliding

ANALYSIS

Will 1988 be the year of the great shake-out of the independent oil sector — so long predicted but never realized?

Over the years, North Sea oil assets have regularly changed hands at prices reflecting the future income flows and exploration potential of the target and the position of the purchaser. The final price agreed was always heavily dependent on oil price expectations.

In the spring of 1986, after the oil price crash, the independent oil companies were much cheaper than at present. But then, the whole sector was in turmoil and the natural predators of the independents, their larger competitors, felt uncertain enough about their own futures to be cautious about making a move.

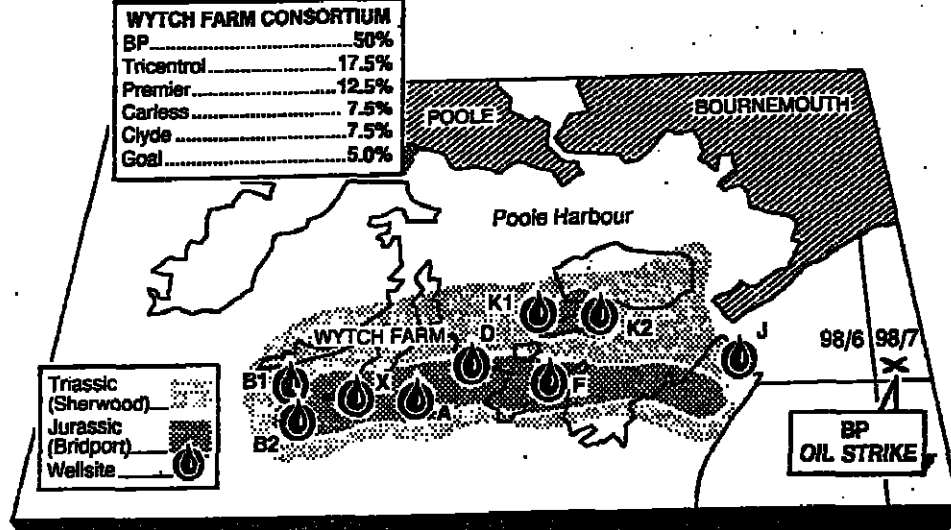
In any case, had a bidder emerged, it is doubtful whether there were any real bargains. Put to the test, single figure oil prices would be viewed as purely temporary.

The larger oil companies, for their part, have long been curiously wary of taking on the independent sector. Many of the small companies have prima donna chairmen, who enjoy running their fiefdoms. None intends to yield without a fight.

Most of the smaller companies have also enjoyed the support of loyal shareholders — whether it be small individual investors who have faith in their chairman, such as Premier's Mr Roland Shaw, or a "friendly" institution or company with a sizeable chunk of the equity.

Any predator unwise enough to bid would therefore have to be prepared for battle. Elf's bid for Tricentral, however, could prove to be the opening shot in a battle ending in the disappearance of the consortium which owns half the Wyth Farm oil field in Dorset.

Interest in Wyth Farm has heightened considerably since BP, which owns the other half, announced a significant oil



Bid battle winner takes all

At last the pussyfooting is over. Black Monday did not spare the independent oil companies, and slumping share prices, combined with weak oil prices, have created an unmissable opportunity for Big Oil.

At least two leading oil companies have decided now is the time to move on their smaller brethren. BP announced a full bid for Britoil on Friday and Elf Acquaintance UK has bid for Tricentral.

The strategic importance of both bids is immense. If BP succeeds in buying Britoil, it will have acquired what one oilman described as a "superb asset bag." Just as important, their combined gas assets strengthen BP's hand in its attempt to become lead manager for a central North Sea gas-gathering pipeline, potentially giving it enough clout to force genuine competition to British Gas in piped gas supplies.

The important Sherwood is as good as in Wyth Farm.

So while some of the consortium members are sticking to the original interpretation that it is a separate oil discovery of about 50 million barrels, others believe there is a strong possibility that the structure extends 2.5 miles to the shore, most probably as a series of oil pockets.

What is needed is a well on the intervening block 98/6. But there is a drilling ban on this block, and although two wells are planned in 1988, the ban may not be lifted before the final quarter of the year.

In the meantime, the seismic structure, which is reportedly of poor quality, is being reinterpreted with a view to remapping the area by mid-January.

Whoever wins Tricentral will also gain some important gas discoveries in the southern North Sea. But just as important, it will buy an entrée into that most exclusive of coterie, the Wyth Farm consortium, which owns half the Wyth Farm oilfield in Dorset. If BP, which owns the other half, is busy sticking to Britoil, then whoever succeeds in buying up Tricentral will be in a good position to pick off the other members.

If it is an extension to Wyth Farm, the additional reserves could be 200 million barrels, bringing the size of the Wyth Farm accumulation up to 450 million barrels. However, the unfavourable tax treatment accorded to field extensions will reduce its value to the participants.

The area is environmentally highly sensitive, making it most likely that the new discovery, if commercial, will be produced through the Wyth Farm facilities. Rather than raise the level of peak output beyond the planned 60,000 barrels a day, it would be more likely to prolong the number of years at peak beyond 1995.

The whole area could be unutilized, and the offshore oil produced with the onshore oil.

The question of whether it

is utilized will be a matter of some importance to the Wyth Farm consortium, which has to pay a net production interest (NPI) of 40 per cent from its onshore oil to the Government. This was part of the price of the transfer of the consortium's 50 per cent interest in the field from British Gas and first payments are expected in 1989.

The NPI is thought to be payable only on production from the onshore licence. If some of the onshore oil production is backed out in exchange for some offshore oil, it will significantly raise the cash flow of the participants.

To many industry observers, this find plumps up the juicy Wyth Farm partners for some predator's table. The comparatively minor impact the discovery has had on their share prices makes the morsel all the more choice. And whoever wins Tricentral, which has 17.5 per cent of the consortium, will then be in a strong position to pick off the remainder of its independent partners.

All the other partners have one or more significant shareholders. Barmah Oil, for instance, owns 25 per cent of Premier Consolidated, which it has been free to sell since July. Nearly 50 per cent of Clyde Petroleum is controlled by five shareholders. Nearly 70 per cent of Goal Petroleum is controlled by five shareholders, of which Clyde has 21.7 per cent and the Norwich Union 29.6 per cent. London Merchant Securities is Carless Capel & Leonard's biggest shareholder with 28.8 per cent.

Arguably, Clyde is the most attractive of the group. Whoever owns Clyde also has a useful stake in Goal. Clyde has also put together one of the most attractive packages of oilfields and acreage in the North Sea, including the promising find on block 9/18b.

In times of takeover, shareholders controlling a large block of shares can be either a blessing or a curse. So far, they have proved to be a

blessing. They hold the smaller oil companies because when they do make a discovery, it can have a disproportionate impact on their share prices. This is their attraction — one not shared by the very much larger Britoil.

Enterprise, though not as big as Britoil, is also of a size where there is less leverage to an oil find. It could, therefore, be vulnerable when its golden share expires at the end of next year, although it has built up something of a following in the City. Its biggest shareholders are ICI with 25 per cent and Lasso with 29.9 per cent.

But if the price is right, anyone can be induced to sell. BP is offering a fairly full price for Britoil, and there seems to be nothing to prevent Britoil's shareholders from accepting. If they do, commercial reality will make a nonsense of the majority voting power which is all the golden share confers.

It is also hard to see what will save Tricentral. There is a precedent for a foreign company buying an independent when the Belgian company Petrofina bought Charterhouse Petroleum. The Government may not have liked it (the Australian BHP is believed to have been warned off bidding for Lasso), but since Charterhouse invited Petrofina in, the merger was able to proceed.

Elf's bid for Tricentral is a contested bid, but board opposition to being taken over is not usually a reason for government intervention. Elf is a French company, but, unlike Australia, France is a member of the EEC and it would not go down well in the Community if Elf were discriminated against for being foreign.

It would take all the fun out of the oil sector if the independents were to disappear. But the low oil price has hit their cash flows, and while few are in real financial difficulties, they have little room for manoeuvre. Time may be running out.

Carol Ferguson

By making more things possible the Woolwich has achieved record results

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PERSONAL LOANS

Multiloan Plus — for existing Woolwich homeowners — and Multiloan are ways of getting the finance you need for personal projects such as an exotic holiday, a yacht, a new car or the pipedream that had previously seemed unattainable.

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ESTATE AGENCY

We have formed Woolwich Property Services to make finding and buying a house simpler and happier. We're building our own estate agency operation, designed to give value for money service.

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INSURANCE ADVICE

We have trained our staff to give advice on a range of insurance products and we can now offer Woolwich borrowers comprehensive buildings and contents insurance with our own Homewise policy.

IMPOSSIBLE

MONEY MANAGEMENT

A Cashbase Card now offers you a free standing order facility and bill payments at the touch of a button. It also earns you a tidy sum in interest at the same time.

Points made by the Chairman, Alan McLintock, C.A., in his address to the 140th Annual General Meeting held on 18th December 1987.

Before the Building Societies Act 1986 many of our last year's activities would have been impossible.

But the Act has opened up many new opportunities which will benefit Woolwich customers and increase our profitability.

"We have been very active in the changed market environment that has emerged... however, we have ensured that innovation has concentrated on services that associate with and complement our central aims of providing an attractive and secure home for savings and financing house purchase and improvements.

"Despite constant pressure on net investment receipts during 1986/1987 we were still able to return record figures and achieve our targeted share of the market.

"I am pleased to report that the Woolwich performed exceptionally well and this is reflected in the accounts.

"The Woolwich is in a very good state of health and is well placed to provide the most effective service for its customers. The investments we are making in new products, services, premises, systems, staff training and development will contribute substantially to the growth of our customer appeal and financial strength."

Total Assets £9,500 million — up 18.4%.

Net receipts from investors £740 million — up 25.2%.

Home Loans up 14% to £2,077 million, lent to nearly 62,000 families.

2.9 million investors now with the Woolwich.



WOOLWICH
EQUITABLE BUILDING SOCIETY

For written details write to the Woolwich Equitable Building Society, Department M, Freeport, London SE18 1BR. Your house will be security for a mortgage or Multiloan Plus loan. All loans subject to status.

Copies of the Annual Report and the full text of the Chairman's Address are available from the Secretary, Equitable House, London SE18 6AB. The Special Resolution adopting new Rules for the Society was carried by an overwhelming majority.

ANYTHING'S POSSIBLE WITH THE WOOLWICH

Volleyball design wins prize

A new design for a portable plastic volleyball net has won this year's BASF Design Award for Mr Richard Haynes, aged 19, a student at Colchester Institute in Essex.

Mr Haynes was one of 32 entrants for the prize, awarded annually by the German plastics company in conjunction with the Plastics and Rubber Institute. He won £250, and a paid attachment for up to three months to BASF in West Germany.

The five finalists, all from Colchester Institute, included the first woman to reach the final, Miss Sally Martin, who has been deaf from birth. She designed a set of steps for exercise use.

RESULTS

TODAY — Interims: Batleys, Buckley's Brewery, Peel Holdings, River Plate & General Investment Trust, Sutcliffe, Speakman, Finsale Economic Forestry Group, Munton Brothers, Reliable Properties, Spectrum Group.

TOMORROW — Interims: Amalgamated Financial Investments, Platon International, Finsale, Isle of Man Enterprises, Pericom.

WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY: none announced

BASE LENDING RATES

ABN	8.50%
Adam & Company	8.50%
BCCI	8.50%
Consolidated Credit	8.50%
Co-operative Bank	8.50%
C. Hoare & Co	8.50%
Hong Kong & Shanghai	8.50%
Lloyds Bank	8.50%
Nat Westminster	8.50%
Royal Bank of Scotland	8.50%
TSB	8.50%
Citibank NA	8.50%

THE "SHELL" TRANSPORT AND TRADING COMPANY, p.l.c.

Notice is hereby given that a balance of the register will be struck on Thursday, 7th January, 1988 for the preparation of the half-yearly dividend payable on the SECOND PREFERENCE SHARES, for the six months ending 31st January 1988. The dividend will be paid on 1st February, 1988.

For Transferees to receive this dividend, their transfers must be lodged with the company's Registrar, Lloyds Bank p.l.c., Registrar's Department, Goring-by-Sea, Worthing, Sussex BN12 5DA, not later than 5.00 p.m. on Thursday, 7th January, 1988.

By Order of the Board
S.M. RIPLEY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Shell Centre,
London, SE1 7NA
21st December, 1987

Brookmount leaps to £2.34m profit

Pretax profit at Brookmount, the USM property company, has more than tripled in the half year to September 30 from £707,000 to £2.34 million and the company is to increase its interim dividend to 1.75p from 1.3p.

Turnover was also sharply higher at £10.68 million against £2.54 million and earnings per share rose to 18.8p from 7p. The board said that the enlarged group now has the assets, the opportunities and the resources to look to the future with confidence.

The directors believe that in the present uncertain state of financial markets, it would be advantageous to shareholders if the company buys in its own shares and proposals will be circulated shortly. Mr David Calverley is appointed a non-executive director.

Bamber buy

Gaskell Broadloom has agreed to acquire Bamber, the tufted carpet maker, for an initial £800,000 comprising £650,000 cash and the issue of 107,143 ordinary shares. Under the agreement, a further consideration, up to a maximum of £300,000 in cash, may be payable depending on Bamber's results to December 31 1988.

Astbury sold

A Caird and Sons is to acquire Astbury Plant which owns a licence to operate a waste landfill site at Rossett, Clwyd.

Payout in lieu

Archimedes Investment Trust is to pay, on February 16, a second interim dividend, in lieu of a final dividend, of 7.5p making 13p (10.9p) for the year to October 31. Gross revenue was £257,695 (£228,755), tax £63,096 (£57,770), net revenue

after all charges including tax £159,898 (£133,518). Net earnings per share 13.1p (10.9p). Net asset value per capital share 431.08p (366.85p).

Plaxtons (GB)

Plaxtons (GB) is to pay a final dividend of 3p (3p) making 4.5p (same) for the year to September 30. With figures in £000s: turnover 99,878 (36,947), profit 1,793 (483), interest payable less receivable 302 (249), pretax profit 1,491 (732), tax 269 (239), extraordinary items 413 (nil). Earnings per share 7.6p (4.2p).

No dividend

Reliant Motor will not be paying a dividend for the year to September 31. With figures in £000s: turnover 12,529 (14,296), operating profit 369 (167), interest debt 216 (338), pretax profit 153 (loss 171), no tax (3), extraordinary debit nil (302), retained profit 153 (loss 476). Earnings per share 2.8p (loss 3.1p).

Fortress sold

Halma is to buy Fortress Interlocks and its associated company Fortress Safety Services for an initial £2,562,000 to be satisfied by £2,337,228 cash and the balance of £224,772 by the issue of ordinary shares at 137.5p each.

Richards final

Richards is to pay a final 1.9p dividend making 2.6p (1.9p) for the year to September 30. With figures in £000s: turnover 28,179 (16,467), profit 1,455 (728), exceptional expenditure 160 (nil), pretax profit 1,295 (728), tax 336 (214). Earnings per share 7.97p (4.26p).

Midas move

Kirk-Telmik is buying Midas Audio Systems, a manufacturer of audio mixing consoles for £290,000 cash.

APPOINTMENTS

Allen & Overy: Mr David Williams, Mr John Scriven, Mr Jonathan Goodwin, Mr Peter Hoekless, Mr Paul Bedford, Mr Patrick Mears, Mr David Marley and Mr Graham Winter join the partnership from January 1.

RM Douglas Construction: Mr John Brown, Mr John Shaw and Mr Graham Wentzell join the board.

Building Employers Confederation: Mr David Stone-man is made junior deputy president.

JH Minet: Mr Robert Jensen becomes executive director.

More appointments, page 22

ZETTER'S
THE POOL OF LONDON
Pays Dividends every week!

Thatcher calls halt to new enterprise zones in England

By Colin Nazzari

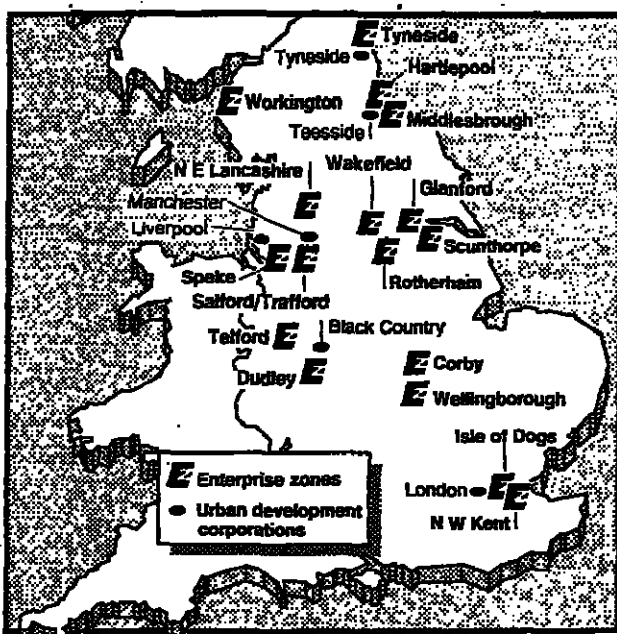
Six years into its experiment with "enterprise zones," the Government believes these pioneering tools of the Thatcher revolution have outlived their usefulness in much of the country, and is calling a partial halt to the scheme.

No more zones will be established in England, but the way is left open for new zones and extensions of existing ones in Scotland and Wales. The situation in Northern Ireland is still being evaluated.

The 25 zones in England, Scotland and Wales enjoy important fiscal and planning advantages, including freedom from rates, during their planned 10-year lifespan.

Their aim is to foster enterprise by releasing businesses from the burdens of excessive local regulation, reflecting the Government's practice of freeing up the economy and overriding local government when it is seen as hampering the greater goal of "enterprise culture."

But such enclaves of privilege have drawn criticism from unprivileged neighbours, who charge that the zones have been flourishing at the cost of the surrounding area.



Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Secretary of State for the Environment, has announced the enterprise zones decision in a Commons written reply.

He hailed the scheme, one of the Thatcher Government's innovations on being elected in 1979, as the "flagship of deregulation" that had helped to encourage the entrepre-

neurial spirit that was now such a welcome feature of the economy.

But things had not stood still since that time and the designation of the first 11 zones in 1981-82. The Government had developed a wide range of other measures, Mr Ridley pointed out, including urban development corpora-

tions and grants, to promote development in areas adversely affected by changes in the local economy.

It was also applying one of the core concepts of the enterprise zone more widely in the form of simplified planning zones.

Given that it was now able to choose from a wider range of measures best suited to a particular area's needs, the Government had concluded that a general extension of the enterprise zone experiment was "not desirable." Other solutions offered greater cost-effectiveness, Mr Ridley said.

Existing zones would be unaffected and the Government recognized that there could be "exceptional" circumstances where new zones might be the best way of overcoming a local problem.

Mr Ridley noted that evaluations by private consultants showed the zones had had varying degrees of success in regenerating economic activity in Britain.

Up to the end of last year, the number of companies involved had risen by 152 per cent, overall employment in the zones had doubled and 60 per cent of the land had been developed at a cost of £300 million.

China and US sign cloth deal

By Our City Staff

In a bilateral deal designed to protect its manufacturing industry, the United States has signed a four-year textile agreement with China, severely reducing cloth and clothing imports from China.

The agreement, announced yesterday, sets an annual limit of about 3 per cent on imports from China over four years. Exports had been growing at about 19 per cent.

Mr Clayton Yeutter, the US Trade Representative, said, "Import growth rates have been limited in all major categories, and domestic producers will now be shielded from rapid and extensive import penetration."

Last year, Washington negotiated new bilateral agreements with Japan, Taiwan, Korea and Hong Kong.

Austin Rover Japan accelerates into 1990s

From David Watts, Tokyo

British cars are selling well in Japan and the Rover Sterling has had a better-than-expected first nine months.

Austin Rover Japan (ARJ) doubled its advertising budget this year and, for the first time for many years, a British-designed car has featured in newspaper and underground advertising. The expensive aggression has paid off with 1,000 Sterlings sold against a target of 800.

ARJ is now setting its sights on annual sales of 20,000-30,000 cars in the first part of the 1990s, having doubled its volume to about 6,200 cars this year - including some models it markets for Peugeot - along with special-edition Minis and Maestros. Predictions for next year are for 8,000 cars sold.

The company claims to be in "good profit" in Japan this year after doubling the number of its dealerships, half of which are exclusive. "We are now going for fundamental, long-term growth and we can see those volumes. Two years ago, we could not," said Mr Peter Woods of ARJ.

The Sterling blends English design with Honda quality-finishing. It costs 4.2 million yen (£17,573). The equivalent car in Britain costs about £19,000. It has been successful, too, in spite of the name Rover - its phonetic equivalent in Japanese means donkey.

The Sterling is selling mainly to drivers in their 40s and 50s, which suggests that ARJ will have a reasonable chance of breaking out of the

limits set by the labels exotic and foreign.

The company is planning to challenge the big Japanese manufacturers in the volume market where the Nissan Leopard, Toyota Crown and Soarer and Mazda Luce reign supreme.

ARJ is managing to cash in on a market for foreign cars which has jumped 42 per cent by the end of November with total sales of 86,095. The total annual market for new cars last year was 3.15 million. Of the foreign total, Jaguar advanced to 623 sales, 41.3 per cent up on last year's 441.

This year, Volkswagen has again topped BMW as the leading foreign brand with January-November sales of 19,570. Mercedes was in third place with 16,744.

Concern grows at grain stocks

By John Young

Agriculture Correspondent
European Economic Community wheat and barley stocks are at their lowest level for more than three years and there is growing concern in some countries that supplies may fall short of demand in the coming months.

Intervention stocks of wheat have fallen to only 3 million tonnes from a record of about 12 million tonnes in November 1985.

In Britain, this figure has dropped from over 4 million tonnes to barely 1 million tonnes.

The Home Grown Cereals Authority is concerned that, in the event of a shortage of open market supplies, there would not be sufficient wheat in British intervention stores to prevent a sharp increase in prices.

Talk of possible shortages may seem extraordinary after recent reports of unmanageable grain "mountains," crippling storage charges and plans to pay farmers to take land out of production.

But the situation has occurred because of the poor harvest in northern Europe and is a reminder of the volatility and unpredictability of farming.

The farming lobby is certain to use the concern over shortages to urge EEC member governments and the European Commission not to take surplus for granted and to be flexible when introducing moves to reduce production.

The authority is critical of the commission's long-standing reluctance to release supplies from intervention stores to domestic markets, on the grounds that they could be disruptive, and its preference instead to export them to countries outside the community at heavily subsidized prices.

With market prices for milling wheat in northern Europe about 3 to 4 per cent above the intervention price - and for British and French barley 2 to 3 per cent above that - there seems little justification for continuing costly sales of grain for export when this could be used to alleviate the supply tightness on the internal market, it says.

ECONOMIC VIEW Post-crash growth too quick for comfort

It is two months since Wall Street's Black Monday, the financial crash that was supposed to change the world. Yet the markets are as concerned as ever that the British economy is overheating. The US President and Congress are still wrangling over the final details of the package to reduce the budget deficit.

And, less than a fortnight after the publication of figures showing a record \$17.6 billion (£9.61 billion) US trade deficit, the Group of Seven plans a Christmas message emphasizing the progress being made on reducing international imbalances. The G7 statement, if it does actually appear, promises to be something of a pantomime horse and will play to a rather thin audience in the markets. Because of this, the treatment it receives may be less harsh than it deserves.

The fact remains that the minimum requirement for collective economic policy action, as 33 eminent economists pointed out last week, is a credible US budget deal. This, unfortunately, is not in place. And the difficulties in achieving even the half-hearted deficit reduction squeezed out by the congressional negotiators last month offers little encouragement.

Whether the finance ministers of the G7 - the US, Britain, West Germany, Japan, France, Italy and Canada - would do better to keep the results of their telephone conversations at the end of last week to themselves is an open question. The Chancellor of the Exchequer has described the view that exchange rate stability can lead to equity market instability as "manifest poppycock", so it clearly has something to be said for it. The danger is that another attempt to impose exchange rate stability will lead to a repeat of the sort of poppycock in the equity markets that we saw in October.

That danger aside, what is to be made of the extraordinary buoyancy of the British economy both before and after October 19? The post-crash evidence is admittedly tentative - record retail sales last month and Confederation of British Industry survey evidence - but there is little to suggest that the economy is running out of steam.

Indeed, the Henley Centre has just revised up its forecast for consumer spending growth next year to 3.6 per cent, on the argument that the spending boost after the three half-point base rate cuts since the stock market fell, will more than compensate for the negative wealth effects on the consumer from that fall.

Consumer confidence has not suffered, except for a possible tightening in the stockbroker belt, from the stock market fall. The drop in inflation as a result of the fall in world oil prices and mortgage rate cuts, the considerable pressure on the Chancellor from within his own party to cut income tax in the Budget, and the upward tick to 8 per cent in the rate of growth of average earnings all point to continued strong growth in real incomes next year.

The evidence of the economy's strength before the crash is considerable. Gross domestic product in the third quarter was 5.2 per cent up on a year earlier. Manufacturing output in the three months to October was 6.5 per cent higher than in the corresponding period of 1986. These figures are not of mere historical interest, they suggest a momentum for the economy that will not easily be halted.

GDP grew by 2.2 per cent in the third quarter, a quarterly increase that may have been erratically high. But, because of the quarterly profile of growth through this year, GDP would only need to hold at its third quarter level from now until the end of 1988 to produce a calendar year growth rate of 1.3 per cent for 1988 compared with 1987.

In other words, as Greenwell-Montagu points out, the slowdown in growth next year implied even by the Treasury's forecast of 2.5 per cent for next year, is very sharp, suggesting growth through 1988 of more than 1 per cent, or about a quarter of the rate through 1987.

The City University Business School today suggests 3.1 per cent growth 1988 over 1987, a forecast which is less optimistic than it looks.

The danger in all this is the familiar one of balance-of-payments weakness and sterling crisis, with January already pencilled into the diaries of some foreign exchange dealers. Goldman Sachs says the markets should not be worried about the current account deficit as long as investment in new industrial capacity is strong enough to ensure that the deterioration is only temporary. The Department of Trade and Industry's (pre-crash) investment intentions survey was bullish, pointing to a rise of 8 per cent next year. But there is an important difference between plans and achievements. It is important that investment as well as consumer spending has survived the crash.

David Smith

Economics Correspondent

Energy plea by paper industry

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Britain's paper and board industry, said to have undergone a "remarkable" recovery in recent years, is persisting in its call for the country's mills not to be disadvantaged by increased power costs.

In a report to Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, the Paper and Board Economic Development Committee says that energy averages 18 per cent of production costs and, while energy prices in most areas are now comparable with those paid by most of the industry's competitors in the European Community, there is still concern.

Mr Geoffrey Drain, the chairman of the EDC, says in a letter to Mr Lawson that even after the introduction of

the Qualifying Industrial Consumers Scheme (Quics) the paper and board makers estimate that only 30 per cent of the industry will qualify, and benefit from price reductions.

The British industry now comprises 69 companies, employing about 37,000 people and having a combined turnover of £1.6 billion. It is sixth among British industrial sectors as a user of energy.

Referring to the industry's recovery, Mr Drain says that in terms of investment, productivity, energy conservation, the use of re-cycled feedstock, increased exports and the stabilization of imports' market share, a good foundation had been laid for further advance.

EEC to examine small businesses

By Robert Rodwell

The EEC Commission is to sponsor its first important conference on small businesses and the development of local self-help enterprises in Northern Ireland next September, it will be announced in Brussels today.

About 400 delegates from all 12 EEC nations are expected to attend, to exchange ideas and experiences of local enterprise development and to see at first hand many of Northern Ireland's initiatives in the small business field.

Brussels' decision to place the conference in Ulster followed talks last week in Belfast between Mr Peter Viggers, the Northern Ireland industry minister, and Mr Alan Mayhew, the director of

the Commission's Small Business Taskforce in Brussels.

With the establishment of its Local Enterprise Development Unit (LEDU) in 1971, Ulster became the first British region to have a specialist small business agency. More recently, 25 purely local enterprise organizations have been set up.

The many "nursery" units are being established by the local organizations, together with the NI Small Business Institute, and the wealth of small businesses and co-operatives operating in everything from basic agriculture and craft to high technology, will provide a variety of case histories for study.

Million pound man signs in

While old friends and colleagues in the Square Mile are falling like flies in the current wave of redundancies, aristocratic Peregrine Moncrieff can be clearly identified as a survivor. Enticed away from his long-standing employer, American investment house Shearson Lehman, only a year ago for a reputed yearly salary of £1 million, to become chairman of the London office of beleaguered broker firm EF Hutton - spearheading its move into the London securities market - he could be forgiven for feeling somewhat embarrassed when Shearson Lehman became Hutton's new parent. But that, clearly, was not the case - or not for long. Moncrieff, a regular of that historic City watering hole Sweeting's, it seems, was rapidly accepted back into the Shearson fold even though the merger caused hundreds of job losses in both firms. He has, in fact, become such an integral part of the establishment that his signature appeared at the bottom of the letters dispatched last week to more than 300 Hutton employees telling them their services were no longer required.

Bad timing

AJ Bekhor, the broking firm reported in this column to have laid off a large number of staff on Thursday and Friday of last week, has confirmed that it did in fact dismiss 29 employees. Joint managing director Malcolm Harries tells

THE TIMES CITY DIARY Game to Goodison

Sir Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the Stock Exchange, has not had the easiest of years, what with the explosive effects of Big Bang and then the stock market turmoil. But he is heartening to discover he still has his sense of humour. At the Stock Exchange Christmas party last week, he came face to face with Damien McCrystal, City editor of the Sun, who has been campaigning for his dismissal. Mc-

Crystal, ever cheeky, had the effrontery to wear a "Goodison must go" badge to the thrash on the 23rd floor of the Stock Exchange tower. He also handed over a gift-wrapped T-shirt sporting the epitaph "Goodison Goes." Without a moment's hesitation, an amused Goodison retorted: "I'll wear it the next time I play tennis. That will really impress the opposition."

me: "Given that it is Christmas, the timing was unfortunate. It was something we would wish to have avoided but given the background of

the fall in the stock market and the downturn in business generally, it was a step we had to take." He added that the staff cutback had been across the board - affecting both dealers and back-office staff.



"There seems to be a special poignancy about wishing us a Prosperous New Year this year"

Riding the Jaguar

Heinz Branitzki, the low-profile finance director who is about to take the wheel at Porsche, is more than just a man good with figures. He can also predict the future. A colleague who shared a 130 mph ride with him on a German autobahn a few years back, recalls that Branitzki confessed his admiration for Jaguar's rebirth, adding that he saw the high-performance British saloon as being the biggest threat to Porsche in the future. Porsche had the field to itself at that time, but things would not stay that way for long, he accurately foretold, especially not in the United States, which is the main market for fast cars. Peter Schurz, the man he succeeds, is leaving the company prematurely after its profits plummeted as a result of the dollar's slide and rival manufacturers penetrating the Porsche market. Passed over for the top job last time, Branitzki, aged 58, will probably view the US-oriented Schurz's demise with a certain Schadenfreude.

It seems that Chinese Walls do not have ears after all. The first large seller of British shares at 300p when BP anonymously entered the market through Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the broker, to build up its initial stake, was the BP Pension Fund, which has an office in the BP Britannic House building, that is, I am told, not all that far from the department which handles the company's corporate investment strategy.

Carol Leonard

And for businesswomen who aren't just married to their work we offer exactly the same thing.

Because, understandably, continual trips abroad can put a considerable strain on

EVEN

a relationship.

Another trip to Dubai, then another and another...

But now Emirates have put you in a position to say "You're coming with me."

And to think all you have

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Fears over sterling cloud the horizon

The gilt market has not reacted positively to the recent easing in interest rates, choosing instead to discount a future tightening of policy. This has been reflected in the upward sloping yield curve. We believe this analysis is correct. However, it would be wrong to write off the gilt market completely, particularly over the next three to six months.

Not only is there the prospect of a surplus on the public sector borrowing requirement, in excess of current expectations, but British inflation fears appear to be overplayed. And, as we move into the new year, world bond markets are likely to be boosted by a perception that the biggest worry in 1988 is not inflation but the outlook for sluggish world growth.

Furthermore, the persistence of the world imbalance means that equity investment is still considered to be high risk. Together with a reduction in estimates of earnings and dividend growth prospects worldwide, this should continue to result in increased institutional weightings in bonds.

This disinflationary environment will not only favour harder currency bond markets but also those bond markets which have not yet seen a big easing in monetary policy.

These factors could allow a more favourable environment for gilt yields in the new year, but the gains are likely to be limited as the market discounts developments towards the end of 1988.

In particular, concerns about the current account point to sterling depreciation. By the end of 1988, we expect sterling to have steadily eased against the mark and to be slightly weaker against a dollar that will have recovered from its lows. Thus, from an international viewpoint, gilts will be underperforming other leading bond markets.

Fundamentals point to an easing of sterling on two accounts.

First, there is expected to be a further deterioration in the current account. Not only do we expect a slower rate of growth next year but, just as significantly, we forecast a change in the sectoral components of growth.

There is expected to be a shift towards consumer demand in 1988. The negative wealth effect will be more than offset by recent falls in interest rates and the improved outlook for inflation. Set against a background of strong earnings growth, this will underpin consumer spending and feed further import demand.

More disappointingly, world trade looks set to be increasingly sluggish. The United States in 1988 is no longer likely to be the locomotive of the world economy and, with the exception of Japan, the weak growth in the main non-US economies presents limited scope for exports to grow without a boost to price competitiveness.

Also, while sterling is no longer considered as a petrocurrency, an easier trend for oil prices will cause sentiment to favour a sterling decline. With oil prices expected to remain sluggish well into 1988, this will help to reduce inflationary fears worldwide but the impact on the British trade balance will be negative, with the oil balance declining.

As a result, we expect a rapid deterioration of the trade deficit, particularly in the second half of the year, contributing to a current account deficit approaching £5 billion in 1988.

Secondly, Britain's rate of inflation is set to exceed that in West Germany in 1988 by some 2.7 per cent, 4 per cent against 1.3 per cent. While the Government is still committed to an anti-inflationary strategy, we believe that policy is unlikely to aim at keeping sterling stable against the mark, as that would imply a real appreciation of the sterling exchange rate which would harm the price competitiveness of British exports.

Such features are likely to be discounted by the foreign exchange market, thus putting sterling under downward pressure even before the problems materialize. However, the depreciation of sterling is likely to be steady and not rapid because of the probable policy response by the British authorities.

Britain has a high level of reserves, \$41.3 billion at the

Auditors unscathed by Black Monday

By Ronald Faux
Employment Affairs Correspondent

The stock market crash has left the accountancy profession largely unscathed. According to Mr Robert Walters, a leading financial recruitment consultant, demand for accountancy skills remains undiminished. "Put simply, after a crisis a good accountant is essential," he said.

The range of responsibilities and the relatively static number qualifying each year had meant opportunities were multiplying.

One constraint that had prevented even more movement in the profession had been the substantial year-end bonuses paid by many large organizations to keep the right candidates.



Robert Walters: openings

ment in the profession had been the substantial year-end bonuses paid by many large organizations to keep the right candidates.

For qualified accountants who had fallen victim to the crash the opportunities remained good, he said. The old notion that quality might be measured by length of service no longer applied and the name of a "high-profile" institution on a curriculum vitae was now more important than the fact that a career with that company might have been short.

The crash had brought other changes to the accountancy jobs market, particularly short-term contracts.

"In our experience, a good candidate with a sound track record is likely at the moment to have four job offers in two weeks and we have at least three City institutions looking for senior people. Basic salary would be up to £50,000 but, with a package of extras, that could be worth a total of £110,000," Mr Walters said.

The yardstick high-flyers could use to measure minimum successful progress was a salary of at least £1,000 for every year of their lives.

After the crash, fears of inflation are misplaced Liquidity boost no cause for panic in the City

Officials and politicians from many countries have emphasized the importance, after the stock market crash, of ensuring the liquidity of the financial system. The markets, however, have already begun to worry about the ensuing inflationary dangers, thereby limiting the authorities' room for manoeuvre. But a careful look at what the authorities have done suggests that markets should be concerned, not whether official action has gone too far, but whether it has gone far enough.

Liquidity, as the Radcliffe Committee put it nearly 30 years ago, is a slippery concept. The worst nightmare central bankers have about the liquidity of the financial system is a run on the banks. If central banks then do nothing, there can easily be a financial collapse, as banks never hold enough cash to meet all claims at once.

If depositors lose confidence in a particular bank for no good reason, it ought to be able to raise cash from other banks or financial institutions through the wholesale market. But it will not be able to if panic is general, or the public is worried about a bank for good reason.

The classic central bank prescription for such a case is to provide the public with cash until its desire for "liquidity" is sated, then reabsorb the cash when things return to normal. The usual way would be to buy (and later sell back) bills or short-term government paper held by the banking system.

This would be reflected in a jump in M0 until things returned to normal. Because cash holdings outside the banks (which make up the majority of M0) are small in relation to bank deposits, a proper panic would cause a sizeable jump in M0.

But M3 would be unaffected. Its bank deposit component would fall, exactly counterbalancing the higher notes and coin component.

No panic of this sort has followed the stock market crash. Nevertheless, the Bank of England and other central banks have been operating a policy skin to supplying extra cash demanded by the public.

They have been prepared to keep the banking system flush with the bankers' equivalent

of cash - deposits at the Bank of England - to keep short-term interest rates down. The money market is so sensitive that a little extra cash in the system can cut rates markedly. So the effect of this policy shows in lower interest rates, rather than "liquidity," helped by the central bank being prepared to supply cash at those lower rates.

Lower rates will help beleaguered borrowers by reducing the cost of finance. And the guaranteed supply of liquidity to the system as a whole may dissuade potential lenders from playing ultra-safe with credit risks.

If markets have serious doubts about a particular house, however, this does not help. It may even be counter-

productive, as markedly lower short-term rates reduce the cost of capital. But, in practice, does anyone seriously suggest that this is a danger now? It is as much as the authorities can do to sustain wealth at the now substantially reduced levels.

Moreover, if the policy were subsequently to succeed, the evidence of it would be rising stock market values. And the way to offset the inflationary dangers would be obvious, too - sterilization.

So, in the name of promoting "liquidity," the authorities have done two things - reduced interest rates, and increased the broad money supply through intervention. But neither of these addresses the problem of difficulties suffered by particular institutions, and the danger of their illiquidity spreading throughout the financial system.

The modern equivalent of the classic banking panic would be financial institutions in the wholesale markets refusing to lend to a particular house or houses which need funds to meet their obligations. Instead, they would prefer to pile up deposits with the clearing banks. If support is not forthcoming then the houses in difficulty would fail, with untold effect on public confidence in the financial system as a whole.

Yet sound financial institutions looking individually at

the prospect of lending to a beleaguered house see the credit risk looming large. They would always rather someone else did the job, and this is where the central bank is vital.

When the Bank of England has confronted such problems in the past, it has never been the sole or even the main provider of funds. Rather it has acted as the co-ordinator and cajoler of a group of major private sector institutions which have put their funds up in support of beleaguered houses.

This is the sort of operation which the Bank of England organized in 1973-74 under arrangements known as the Lifeboat. But we now know that it was no easy matter putting the rescue package together, as it involved persuading key institutions to take larger stakes in companies in deep trouble, and persuading the major banks to make loans to those companies when the market more generally would not.

So far as we know, there have been no comparable difficulties caused by the recent stock market crash, at least in Britain. We can only hope that, having organized such operations before, the Bank would be able to organize them again.

It is important, however, that both markets and politicians are prepared to give their wholehearted support. And it must be said that the increasing competition in the nature of the financial markets now almost certainly makes it more difficult for the Bank to persuade private sector institutions to come to the aid of some of their brethren.

However great our confidence in the Bank of England, can we be sure of other markets, and other central banks? This sort of liquidity-support operation, the sort that really matters, remains untested in the current crisis.

The country with the greatest potential vulnerability is Japan, where asset values have soared highest. Perhaps this is one instance when we should all be thankful for the Japanese authorities' ability to induce private institutions to act in the national interest.

Roger Bootle
Economic adviser
Lloyds Merchant Bank

APPOINTMENTS New group managing director for Conoco

Conoco: Mr Terry Moore becomes group managing director and chief executive and Mr David Watts managing director, supply and trading Europe.

Rogers & Jackson: Mr Mike McNicholas has been made managing director.

British Printing Industries Federation: Mr Colla Stanley will be director general from April 1.

Addax UK: Mr Robert McCulloch becomes sales director.

Hammond & Deacon: Ms Margaret Charrington has been named non-executive chairman.

Abbey: Mr Charles Gallagher becomes a deputy chairman, Mr Desmond Galles a director and Mr Joseph Davy a non-executive director.

JW Barber & Son: Mr Stan Goakes has been made managing director.

Oceanic Financial Services: Miss Diana Noronha becomes vice-president.

Stock Beech: Mr Robin da Bonlay, Mr Neil Campbell, Mr James Fox, Mr Colin Garrett, Ms Margaret Hankin and Ms Pamela Reid become associate directors. Mr Tony Tarr joins the board of Stock Beech Market Makers.

Franchise Investors: Mr Simon Beecroft has been appointed director, new projects.

Company	Price	Change	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
7.8300 A & M Co	25	+	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10
5.2400 AIA	44	+	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10
5.2400 AIA	44	+	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10
5.2400 AIA	44	+	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10
5.2400 AIA	44	+	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10
5.2400 AIA	44	+	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10
5.2400 AIA	44	+	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10
5.2400 AIA	44	+	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10
5.2400 AIA	44	+	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10
5.2400 AIA	44	+	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10

Company	Price	Change	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
7.8300 A & M Co	25	+	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10
5.2400 AIA	44	+	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10
5.2400 AIA	44	+	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10
5.2400 AIA	44	+	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10
5.2400 AIA	44	+	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10
5.2400 AIA	44	+	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10
5.2400 AIA	44	+	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10
5.2400 AIA	44	+	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10
5.2400 AIA	44	+	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10
5.2400 AIA	44	+	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10

FOREIGN EXCHANGES				
STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES				
Market rates for December 18				
	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
New York	1.8250-1.8390	1.8250-1.8285	0.08-0.08 1/2	0.42-0.38 1/2
London	2.3500-2.3520	2.3500-2.3520	0.10-0.11	0.42-0.43
Amsterdam	3.3470-3.3500	3.3470-3.3500	1.10-1.11	0.42-0.43
Frankfurt	62.10-62.12	62.10-62.12	18-19	0.42-0.43
Paris	11.4510-11.4520	11.4510-11.4520	34-35	0.42-0.43
Bremen	1.1170-1.1180	1.1170-1.1180	70-71	0.42-0.43
Brussels	2.4200-2.4210	2.4200-2.4210	100-101	0.42-0.43
Madrid	241.45-241.55	241.45-241.55	26-27	0.42-0.43
Geneva	217.17-217.27	217.17-217.27	26-27	0.42-0.43
Basel	11.8250-11.8270	11.8250-11.8270	6-7	0.42-0.43
Oslo	10.8500-10.8510	10.8500-10.8510	10-11	0.42-0.43
Stockholm	10.8100-10.8110	10.8100-10.8110	10-11	0.42-0.43
Tokyo	231.90-232.10	231.90-232.10	1-2	0.42-0.43
Yokohama	231.90-232.10	231.90-232.10	1-2	0.42-0.43
Zurich	241.70-241.80	241.70-241.80	1-2	0.42-0.43

OTHER STERLING RATES	
Argentina austrail*	8.0880-8.1940
Australia dollar	2.5823-2.5674
Bahrain dinar	0.9910-0.9950
Brazil cruzado *	124.077-124.765

11.35s	Ceylon	42	+2	2.2	2.8	48.4	27.3M	Miller & Sontheim	460	+40	3.2	0.7	51.7
3,684.00s	Colombia	130	..	..	..	..	6,301.00s	Melbourn Street	118	..	4.1	3.5	8.5
12.7s	Corn	153	+7	2.4	2.1	6.4	3,992.00s	Monroe World	200	..	1.4	1.4	..
5,119.00s	Copao Gold	23	..	..	..	..	22.11s	Moys	225	..	2.7	1.2	28.2
48.1m	Oil of Hogs	114	+4	..	..	..	11.4s	Moyns Visions	202	-1	..	..	..
25.7s	Costa Electronics	100	..	8.5	5.5	11.7	21.3s	Moyns and Crane	140	..	..	..	..
1.1m	Czech Republic	57	..	..	..	..	1.1m	Moyns and Crane	140	..	..	..	..
3,556.00s	Colombia Inc	32	r -2	..	..	..	7,467.00s	Moorgate	117	+2	2.5	2.1	14.6
16.3m	Colombian	157	+2	1.8	1.1	18.5	5,014.00s	Morris (William)	15	+1 1/2	..	..	..
18.7s	Cosmopolitan	140	+6	..	..	..	6,422.00s	Musterlin	85	..	4.1	4.3	12.0
1.1m	Croatia	170	..	..	..	..			

STERLING SPOT RATES		Other Sterling Rates		
Market rates for December 18				
Range	Close	1 month	3 month	
New York	1.8250-1.8280	1.8250-1.8280	0.08-0.09	0.42-0.43
London	2.3500-2.3520	2.3500-2.3520	0.10-0.11	0.42-0.43
Amsterdam	3.3470-3.3500	3.3470-3.3500	1.10-1.11	0.42-0.43
Frankfurt	62.10-62.12	62.10-62.12	18-19	0.42-0.43
Paris	11.4510-11.4520	11.4510-11.4520	34-35	0.42-0.43
Bremen	1.1170-1.1180	1.1170-1.1180	70-71	0.42-0.43
Brussels	2.4200-2.4210	2.4200-2.4210	100-101	0.42-0.43
Madrid	241.45-241.55	241.45-241.55	26-27	0.42-0.43
Geneva	217.17-217.27	217.17-217.27	26-27	0.42-0.43
Basel	11.8250-11.8270	11.8250-11.8270	6-7	0.42-0.43
Oslo	10.8500-10.8510	10.8500-10.8510	10-11	0.42-0.43
Stockholm	10.8100-10.8110	10.8100-10.8110	10-11	0.42-0.43
Tokyo	231.90-232.10	231.90-232.10	1-2	0.42-0.43
Yokohama	231.90-232.10	231.90-232.10	1-2	0.42-0.43
Zurich	241.70-241.80	241.70-241.80	1-2	0.42-0.43

9.2400	Scott Harteable	156	..	6.0	4.4	11.7	11.9m	Zygal Dynamics	08	+10	1.4	1.7	11.7
9.8770	Sci Arceives	145											
11.50m	Sales: App	116		3.4	3.0	16.2							
2.1050m	SelecTV	16	-1										
23.01m	Shere Drug Svs	220	..	4.1	1.9	16.6							
12.00m	Shere & Law	150	..	4.1	2.7								
3.9820m	Sheldon Jones	77		6.4	8.3	13.2							
2.99m	Shelton	100	-1										
9.5250m	Sherrwood Comp	190	-10	5.5	2.9	11.2							
15.2m	Shield	145	-4	4.1	2.8	17.5							

● Ex dividend ● Ex st b Forecast dividend ● Interim payment passed I Price at suspension G Dividend and stock include a special payment P Pre-merger figures a Forecast earnings ● Ex other ● Ex rights ● Ex scrip or stock split J Takeover

sterling	2.3435-2.4027	2.3535-2.3570	2.17p-0.08d	1-12p-0.11d	Cyprus pound	0.8100-0.8200
sterling	2.3670-3.3590	3.3516-3.3582	10-12p	3-4p-3p	Finland marka	7.3500-7.3950
sterling	62.10-62.12	62.10-62.12	18-19p	39-42p	Greece drachma	236.50-237.50
sterling	11.4510-11.5251	11.4510-11.4978	34p-19p	1-3d	Hong Kong dollar	14.229-14.256
sterling	1.1170-1.1206	1.1170-1.1206	70-71p	15p-1p	India rupee	23.50-24.00
sterling	2.4200-2.4254	2.4200-2.4254	100-101p	100-101p	Kuwait KD	0.5000-0.5025
sterling	241.45-245.05	241.45-245.05	20-25p	300-305p	Malaysia dollar	4.5517-4.5590
sterling	201.76-202.69	201.94-202.47	25-26p	135-165p	Mexico peso	4010-4060
sterling	2167.17-2196.45	2168.00-2193.46	2-6d	11-12d	New Zealand dollar	2.8233-2.8336

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Oslo	10.8500-10.8510	10.8500	10-11
Stockholm	10.8100-10.8110	10.8100	10-11
Tokyo	231.90-232.10	231.90	1-2
Yokohama	231.90-232.10	231.90	1-2
Zurich	241.70-241.80	241.70	1-2

INVESTMENT						
Capitalization %	Company	Price last Friday	Chg on week	Gross div p/ann	Div Yr %	P/E
10.5%	Comp. Financ'l	180	-5	3.4	1.9	19.7
5.44%	Compost	48	+	...	7.2	...
10.5%	Cons. Term Inv	52	+	...	36.8	...
6.87%	Cons. Microwave	175	+	3.9	2.2	25.9
36.5%	Cook (DC)	151	+	...	...	...
14.2%	Corporat. Prop	51	+	...	0.8	...
7.74%	Covanta	105	+	4.1	3.9	13.4
8.74%	Cranham	9	+	1.8	20.2	...
5.60%	Cranbrook	70	+	...	14.5	...
5.60%	Cranbrook	195	+	7.8	7.2	10.2

NT TRUSTS					
Capitalization \$	Company	Price last Friday	Ch ge on week	Gross div price	Div Yld %
					P/E

THIRD MARKET					
Capitalization \$	Company	Price last Friday	Ch ge on week	Gross div price	Div Yld %
					P/E

11.6590-11.7276	11.6590-11.7051	6-6½%	18½-19½%	Saudi Arabia riyal	6.8776-6.9175
10.0685-10.1015	10.0795-10.1015	par-1d	4-1½%	Singapore dollar	2.9559-3.0638
10.8161-10.8761	10.8262-10.8554	par-1d	4-2½%	S Africa rand (fm)	5.7307-5.8262
231.96-232.55	232.08-232.55	1-½%	2½-2½%	S Africa rand (fm)	5.7308-5.8367
20.93-21.04	21.01-21.04	8-8½%	24½-21½%	U A E dirham	6.7350-6.7750
2.4170-2.4267	2.4231-2.4267	1½-¾%	3½-2½%		

*Premium = pr. Discount = ds.

*Lloyds Bank. Rates supplied by
Etel and Barclays Bank HOPEX

TENNIS

No fairy-tale finish for India after the non-event final

From Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent, Gothenburg

Vijay Amritraj, who has a way with words, described India's advance to the Davis Cup final as a fairy-tale, a wonderful dream. "Then the damned Swedes had to come and wake us up." That was predictable. The Indians were always on a hiding to nothing. The final was a non-event.

To some extent it was like watching the Boat Race, with huge crowds waiting in vain for something to happen. Sweden jumped ahead, stayed there, and achieved a winning 3-0 lead at the cost of only one set. That set was the second of the doubles, as it was three years ago when, with more than a decade to go, a formidable United States team by the same 3-0 margin.

This year's world team championship had one tie too many. Both teams had already done their stuff. Sweden had won testing ties in Italy, France and Spain. Having

worked well in distant allotments, they came home simply to pick the flowers. This was their third triumph in a run of five consecutive Davis Cup finals. Hasse Olsson, their captain, praised India's pre-final achievements but estimated that, since his appointment in 1982, Sweden's only easier ties had been against Indonesia and Denmark.

India came within a point of losing to Argentina in the first round. They might have been relegated. Instead they beat Argentina, Israel and Australia — all on grass, India's preferred surface. In Sydney they were lucky because Pat Cash (no ring on grass, as we were reminded at Wimbledon) was not fit enough to play singles.

Thus it was that little Ramesh Krishnan and the brothers, Vijay and Anand Amritraj, two part-timers in

their middle 30s, battled their way from obscurity to the inevitable anti-climax of a final contested on an admirable shale court, specially installed for the occasion. Crowds close to the stadium's 12,400 seat capacity watched in some embarrassment as their heroes carried out the equivalent of a mercy killing. The Amritraj brothers reached the final once before, in 1974, but a political ban prevented India from playing South Africa. The brothers have represented their country for 20 years but no longer compete regularly in tournaments. For both of them the final was an appendix to their careers, an unexpected and thrilling bonus.

For one set of the doubles they played well. But Mats Wilander and Joakim Nyström were indulgent, passively letting the match drift for a while — as if taking success for granted instead of making a positive effort to nail it down. After that absent-minded set, the Swedes engaged top gear and everything happened too fast for the Indians. The score was 6-2, 3-6, 6-1, 6-2.

Sweden had no need to risk Stefan Edberg's slightly suspect ankle, in singles or doubles. Even so, their team was far stronger than it needed to be. This was a freak final, in some ways reminiscent of Britain's progress to the 1978 final with the U.S. The British team, like India's, included brothers: David and John Lloyd.

You can beat the odds some of the time but not all the time. Never mind. The Indians, like the rest of us, presumably enjoyed Gothenburg's delectable assortment of *les fruits de mer*, as the French so graphically put it. Mind you, even a commonplace bottle of wine costs about £15. It could be the seafood that inspires Swedish tennis players — and the cost of wine that makes them so thoughtful.

RESULTS: Sweden beat India, 3-0. Doubles: Mats Wilander (S) 6-2, 6-4, 6-2; Joakim Nyström (S) 6-2, 6-4, 6-2. Singles: Anand Amritraj (I) 6-4, 6-1, 6-3; Ramesh Krishnan (I) 6-4, 6-3, 6-2.

GYMNASTICS: BRITONS SPRING INTO MEDAL POSITIONS



Right on beam: Gabrielle Gheorghe consolidates her lead

Romanian denies Grayson victory

By Peter Aykroyd

In an unexpected British success at the Kraft International on Saturday, Lisa Grayson captured second place in the women's overall competition and Andrew Morris, the British champion, shared the bronze medal in the men's contest.

Miss Grayson's consistency and all-round talent in a field of 12, of whom half were from the eastern bloc, gave rise to her silver-medal performance. From the optional vault exercise, she, the Russians, Olga Chudinina and Natalia Lachenkova, looked set to grasp victory — a score for an original layout vault which was full twist.

However, both came to grief on the asymmetric bars, which took them out of medal contention and enabled the accurate Gabrielle Gheorghe, of Romania, to seize gold, just 0.5 ahead of Miss Grayson. Miss Gheorghe consolidated her position after her stylish beam routine scored 9.60. The bronze was taken by Ana Rueda, of Spain, who displayed determination more than flair. Karen Kennedy, the graceful British No. 3, came equal ninth.

Maxim Djomin, the Russian youth champion, had no difficulty in winning the men's competition after he took the lead with an outstanding 9.70 on the pommel horse. But he was pursued closely all the way by Morimasa Honda, of Japan, in second place and only 0.45 separated them at the finish.

Dian Kolev, of Bulgaria, was certainly in Djomin's class as he won three places — floor, rings and vault — but low scores in his other three routines pulled him down to an irretrievable fifth position.

Morris was in line for the silver, but a weak vault dropped him from the leaders. However, showing his customary coolness, he redeemed himself on the parallel bars and horizontal bar to share the bronze medal with Yu Bo, of China. His British colleagues, Roman Edwards and Carl Bevan, shared the seventh and eighth respectively.

The tournament was the best by elementary mistakes, no doubt caused by end-of-the-season doldrums following the recent world championships. Many of the contestants will now concentrate on getting a place at next year's Olympics.

RESULTS: Third place, 1. M. Djomin (USSR), 56.70; 2. M. Honda (Jpn), 56.25; 3. Yu Bo (China), 55.85; 4. D. Kolev (Bul), 55.80; 5. O. Chudinina (URS), 55.80; 6. G. Gheorghe (Rou), 55.75; 7. A. Rueda (Esp), 55.70; 8. K. Kennedy (GB), 55.65; 9. C. Bevan (GB), 55.60; 10. L. Grayson (GB), 55.55.

ATHLETICS

World title hopes are raised by England victory

By Pat Butcher
Athletics Correspondent

The chances of the British taking the world cross-country team title from the Kenyans next March, a feat which began to look a possibility after England's win over the Africans at Cardiff on Saturday, now depends on how many of the home competitors are willing to make the long trip to New Zealand in three months time.

The world championships go to the southern hemisphere for the first time, to Auckland. And it will be the first time that there is a combined United Kingdom team instead of four separate home countries.

It is not the long trip which is such a problem for the English champion, Dave Clarke, who finished second to Paul Kipkoech, the Kenyan world 10,000 metres champion at Cardiff castle on Saturday; it is the short time between Auckland in late March and the London Marathon a month later. London is the trial for Seoul and, at 30, it could be Clarke's last chance to make the Olympic team.

Rob De Castella's experience of flying from Australia to finish sixth in the world cross-country championships at Gateshead in 1983, then winning the Rotterdam marathon a month later, runs counter to Clarke's fears. De Castella also went on to win the world title in Helsinki another two months later.

But if Clarke cannot be persuaded to go to New Zealand, England's most consistent cross-country runner of the eighties would be lost to Britain. Dave Lewis, fifth in Cardiff on Saturday, is similarly apprehensive. Lewis, another mainstay of the English team which finished second to the Kenyans in the world championships in Warsaw last March, is also looking for an Olympic place, albeit at 5,000m.

Hutchings upset at drugs claims

Tim Hutchings stepped into the row over drugs in athletics when he claimed on Saturday that the "vast majority of the British team had nothing to do with drugs" — an insinuation on Harlech Television, he said. "I have been in international athletics for nearly 10 years and I wouldn't know a steroid if it was held under my nose. I have never seen a needle and I'm upset that we all seem to have been tarred by the same brush."

"Drugs are a nuisance in the vast majority of our clubs and among most of our international athletes. A few members of the British team have decided to cheat behind closed doors. It's sad that the rest of the team's fingers are in fact they are honest, hard-working athletes who have done nothing wrong."

or the steeplechase. It is the long trip, interrupting his training, which is deterring Lewis. Only a win in the UK trial at Gateshead on January 30 would persuade him to go.

Tim Hutchings, third in Cardiff, is the only man racing to go to Auckland. Hutchings is equally eager to get back to his 1984 form, when he finished second in the world championships and went on to fourth place in the Olympic 5000m, one in front of Kipkoech. But Kipkoech was a street ahead of him on Saturday in the 8km International Athletics Club race, sponsored by HFC Trust. The Kenyan will take some stopping in Auckland.

RESULTS: Senior men (8km): 1. P. Kipkoech (Ken), 24m 44sec; 2. D. Clarke (Eng), 25.12; 3. T. Hutchings (Eng), 25.18; 4. J. Voss (Ger), 25.19; 5. O. Linn (Swe), 25.15; 6. J. Richards (South of England), 25.15; 7. T. Smith (Eng), 25.15; 8. J. Voss (Ger), 25.15; 9. J. Richards (South of England), 25.15; 10. J. Richards (South of England), 25.15.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

7.30 unless stated
Simod Cup
First round

QPR v Reading (7.45)
Scottish FA Cup
First round replay

E Striving v Inverness Cal (8.0)
Central League: Second division
West Bromwich v Oldham (7.0)

SUNDAY: 11.00
SUNDAY: 11.00
SUNDAY: 11.00

VAUGHAN-OPPEL LEAGUE: Premier division
Chesham v Wokingham (12.00)
Second division: North: Harlow v Tilbury

ESSEX SENIOR CUP: Second round
Chesham v Wokingham (12.00)
Walsingham v Bury (12.00)

RUGBY UNION
CLUB MATCH: Newport v Gloucester (7.0)

OTHER SPORT
BASKETBALL: World invitation club championship (at Crystal Palace)

SQUASH RACKETS: British doubles championships (at Cannon Club, London, EC4)

AMERICAN BASKETBALL: National Basketball Association (at Madison Square Garden, New York, EC4)

SOCCER: Gwent v Newport (11.00)
Worcester v Worcester (11.00)

EQUINE SPORT: Olympia show: Highlights from the Grand Hall (BBC1: 2.15)

PURE STRENGTH 1987: Geoff Caine (GB), Bill Kazzmar (US) and Paul Seymour (Canada) compete for the Sullivan trophy (BBC1: 4.15)

SPORTSWORLD EXTRA: Ice Hockey: Soviet Union v Czech Republic (TV: 1.15)

THE HUNT IN SPORT: Hares racing Series on international equestrian sports (C4: 8.30 p.m.)

Mappin delighted at women's squad

By Barry Wood

A contingent of nine women, spearheading the largest group of British tennis players ever to compete together overseas, left Britain at the weekend. They will play three events in Australia — including the Open at Melbourne's brand new national tennis centre — followed by two in New Zealand.

Sam Mappin, the national team manager, is especially delighted with the number who have gained direct entry into the Open, and sees that as an indication that the development programme which began some years ago is now beginning to pay dividends.

She said: "We will have Anne Fox, Sara Gomer, Jo Durie, Annabel Croft, Clare Wood and Valda Lake all in the main draw, and we have Teresa Catin, Amanda Greenfield, Katie Rickard, Sarah Lesch and qualifying. On top of that, we'll be trying to get people such as Samantha Smith, Alex Neipel and Rachel Violett in. So whatever we've been doing, we are moving in the right direction."

Eight of the players are members of two teams being sent

under either the Women's Challenger Squad or the Lawn Tennis Association, or as a group of British players competing in the series. Andrew Jarrett and Lesley Charles have accompanied them as team captains, and such a commitment has made a considerable impact on Miss Mappin's plans.

"We've spent £15,000 on air fares alone, and then of course there is the accommodation. The girls pay for their own meals, and they will pay 50 per cent of their prize money back to the LTA on this trip because it is so expensive."

"With the cost of Andrew and Lesley it will cost £25,000, which is about half my budget for the year gone straight away, and that's why I'm very keen to get a sponsor for this particular tour. But it is the first time since I began with the LTA that I feel justified in this expense, as so many young girls are now beginning to show real potential. This experience with 1 am sure, pay dividends in the next couple of years."

YACHTING

Short considers boycott

From a Special Correspondent, Sydney

The United States team is considering withdrawing from the AWA Southern Cross Cup offshore series after Siderinder, was penalized 10 per cent of its placings for a technicality in race two. A check showed that the main sail was a centimetre longer than shown on the yacht's racing certificate.

The sail was stamped at the Admirals Cup earlier this year and Randy Short, the captain of the American team, said: "We

do not like being called cheats. The sail measurement was a mistake that was not our fault."

Australia took a 52-point lead from New Zealand when Siderinder V (Gary Appleby) and Madeline's Daughter (Peter Kurts) finished in the top places in the 180-mile third race.

RESULTS: Third race, 1. Siderinder V (G Appleby), 2. Madeline's Daughter (P Kurts), 3. 3m Siderinder V (G Appleby), 4. 3m Siderinder V (G Appleby), 5. 3m Siderinder V (G Appleby), 6. 3m Siderinder V (G Appleby), 7. 3m Siderinder V (G Appleby), 8. 3m Siderinder V (G Appleby), 9. 3m Siderinder V (G Appleby), 10. 3m Siderinder V (G Appleby).

Court of Appeal

Privilege in criminal proceedings

Regina v Atton
Before Lord Justice Woolf, Mr Justice Waterhouse and Mr Justice French

[Judgment December 17]
When a communication was originally privileged, and in criminal proceedings privilege was claimed against the defendant by the client originally concerned or his solicitor, it should be for a defendant to show on the balance of probabilities that the claim could not be sustained.

The Court of Appeal so held when allowing the appeal of Yvonne Atton against her conviction for conspiracy to supply a controlled drug (count 1) and supplying a controlled drug (count 2) for which she was sentenced on December 1 to five years' imprisonment.

Mr Edward Raw, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr Montague Sherborne for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE FRENCH said that on count 1 the appellant was charged jointly with two others called Harvey and Christodoulou, both of whom pleaded guilty to that count. Harvey pleaded not guilty to count 2, and the three were allowed to lie on the file.

He then elected to give evidence on behalf of the prosecution. While he was in the witness box counsel for the appellant sought to cross-examine him

concerning an alleged previous inconsistent statement to his solicitors, who also acted for the appellant.

Harvey claimed privilege, and the judge ruled that without Harvey's consent such cross-examination would be a breach of privilege between client and solicitor.

Was Harvey entitled in the circumstances obtaining to claim privilege?
The court's attention had been drawn to authorities in this country and Commonwealth jurisdictions bearing on the topic, see *R v Barton* (1973) WLR 1151, *R v Craig* (1975) 1 NZLR 597, *R v Dumb and Logan* (1983) 138 DLR (3d) 221, a decision of the Ontario Court of Appeal.

In each of the cases cited the result was in favour of the man standing trial. Also, the resolution of the problem in each individual case involved balancing the competing interest of the public in the due and orderly administration of justice on the one hand and of the public and the accused in ensuring that all evidence supportive of his case was before the court on the other hand. The duration of the privilege was discussed in *Cross on Evidence* (1979) (5th ed) p236.

Basing themselves on the general principle which attracted the court in *Craig*, referred to in *Cross* and amended to make it applicable to the instant case, their Lordships would set out the principles thus:

When a communication was originally privileged and in criminal proceedings privilege was claimed against the defendant by the client originally concerned or his solicitor, it should be for a defendant to show on the balance of probabilities that the claim could not be sustained.

That might be done either by demonstrating that there was no ground on which the client could any longer be reasonably regarded as having a recognizable interest in asserting the privilege or that an established exception applied or the legitimate interest of the accused in seeking to breach the privilege outweighed that of the client in seeking to maintain it.

The judge in the instant case did not apply his mind to the balancing of competing interests. He was not to be blamed for that as he was not invited to do so, nor would it appear, were the authorities cited to him.

In their Lordships' judgment the procedure adopted at the trial to resolve this problem was not the proper one. It was essential in order for the judge to decide both ways that the defendant could reasonably be regarded as having a recognizable interest in asserting the privilege and, if so, whether the interests of Harvey outweighed those of the appellant in seeking to breach it, for him to have heard argument on the point and if necessary to have held a trial within a trial in order to determine it. The conviction in all the circumstances of the case was unsafe or unsatisfactory.

The problem in this case arose with no impropriety on the part of counsel for the appellant whose sole duty was to his client, yet as a result of a disclosure by the solicitor representative to counsel which was quite improper, having regard to the continuing duty the solicitors owed to Harvey, their former client.

Their Lordships considered that the solicitor's profession should be alert to prevent any disclosure of this kind, and in the future, particularly when, as was often the case, counsel was assisted at the trial by a representative who was neither a solicitor nor a legal executive nor someone who was familiar with the rules of confidentiality governing the profession.

Their Lordships considered it at least doubtful, in circumstances where conflict might arise at the trial between the interests of an existing and a former client, whether it was proper for a solicitor to continue to act for either client.

In conclusion, it was appropriate to say that neither the instant case nor the cases cited should be regarded as any encouragement to counsel for defendants to undertake what were called loosely but accurately "fishing expeditions" in order to discover whether material of the sort which could be used in this case could be unearthed by means of cross examination.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Inner London.

Regina v Martin
Before Lord Justice Purchas, Mr Justice Waite and Mr Justice Tucker

[Reasons December 16]

A trial judge had erred in ruling that statements taken from foreign seamen by police officers in the course of investigating thefts from ships in Limerick docks could be read to the jury under the provisions of section 68 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984. Documents could only be introduced in evidence under section 68 if they had come into existence as a record kept by a person under a duty to record contemporaneous facts.

The Court of Appeal so held in giving reasons for its appeal on November 3 1987. James Andrew Martin's appeal against conviction on February 11, 1987 at Grimsby Crown Court.

MR JUSTICE LATEY, sitting as an additional judge of the Queen's Bench Division, expressed his concern when giving reasons for dismissing applications by parents for judicial review of two decisions by Newcastle upon Tyne Juvenile Court to appoint guardians *ad litem* to represent their children in care proceedings brought by the local authority.

The parents had sought orders of *certiorari* to quash the justices' decisions so that they could appeal on behalf of the children to the crown court.

MR JUSTICE LATEY said that section 32A of the Children and Young Persons Act 1969, as amended by section 64 of the Children Act 1975, gave power to juvenile courts to appoint a guardian *ad litem* to safeguard the interests of the child where it appeared that the interests of the child and the parents might be in conflict. The appointment of a guardian *ad litem* meant that he was the only person who could appeal on the child's behalf.

It had been submitted that justices, having decided that there might be conflict, making

(Judge Whitehead and a jury) of three counts of theft and sentences of two years' imprisonment concurrent on each.

His appeal against conviction on three other counts of theft on each of which he had also been sentenced to two years' imprisonment concurrent was dismissed and leave to appeal against those sentences together with a sentence of nine months' imprisonment imposed consecutively for breach of a previous suspended sentence was refused.

A question on the construction of section 68 of the 1984 Act was certified by the Court of Appeal but leave to appeal was refused.

Section 68 provides: "(1) ... a statement in a document shall be admissible in any proceedings as evidence of any fact stated therein of which direct

oral evidence would be admissible if — (a) the document is or forms part of a record compiled by a person acting under a duty from information supplied by a person (whether acting under a duty or not) who had, or may reasonably be supposed to have had, personal knowledge of the matters dealt with in that information ..."

Mr Timothy John Spencer, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr Keith Jackson for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE PURCHAS, giving the judgment of the court, said that the trial judge, on a preliminary submission, had ruled that statements taken from complainants and others and recorded by the investigating police officers

were documents which formed part of a record compiled within section 68(1). He later certified the case as being one in which he would apply to the statements in respect of his exercise of discretion in admitting that evidence.

In their Lordships' judgment, a document to be admissible under section 68(1), must have come into existence as a record or part of a record kept by a person acting in the performance of a duty to record contemporaneous facts independent of the issues raised in the proceedings in which it was sought to introduce the document as evidence. The section did not therefore apply to statements incorporating the complaints of witnesses to an offence.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Humberstone.

Court of Appeal

Documentary hearsay rule broken

Extradition committal was correctly ordered

Regina v Governor of Brixton Prison, Ex parte Soering
Before Lord Justice Lloyd and Mr Justice Macpherson

[Judgment December 11]

A magistrate did not err in committing an accused to await extradition to the United States on a charge of murder when there was psychiatric evidence that the accused was suffering from diminished responsibility.

Article IV of the United States Extradition Treaty 1972 (SI 1976 No 2144) gave the Secretary of State of the Home Department, and no one else a discretionary right to seek an assurance from the US Government that the death penalty would not be imposed.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in refusing an application for a writ of *habeas corpus* by Jens Soering.

Article IV of the 1972 Treaty provides: "If the offence for which extradition is requested is punishable by death under the relevant law of the requesting party, but the relevant law of the requested party does not provide for the death penalty in a similar case, extradition may be refused unless the requesting party gives assurances satisfactory to the requested party that the death penalty will not be carried out."

Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC and Mr Rudolf Russell for the applicant; Mr Paul Garlick for the DPP and the US Government.

LORD JUSTICE LLOYD said the applicant was charged in the United States with the murder of Derek William Reginald Hayson and Nancy Aston Hayson.

The committal proceedings took place at Bow Street Magistrates Court on June 16, 1987. At the hearing, evidence was put

before the magistrate of Dr Henrietta Bullard.

According to her evidence, the applicant was suffering at the time of the offence of an abnormality of the mind such as substantially impaired his mental responsibility.

According to Dr Bullard the applicant would have a defence in this country under section 2(1) of the Homicide Act 1957 and would be liable to be convicted of manslaughter rather than murder.

His Lordship rejected the argument that the magistrate had fallen into error with regard to Dr Bullard's evidence. It did not follow that the magistrate did not take her evidence into account on the basis that if he had, he could not have committed the applicant on a charge of murder, but only on a charge of manslaughter.

The question for the magistrate to consider was whether there was sufficient evidence to go before a jury if the trial took place in England. In an English trial, the question of diminished responsibility was one for the jury. In the present case the US Government had made out a *prima facie* case.

Nor did his Lordship accept the second argument put forward by Mr Blom-Cooper that article IV conferred a right on the applicant. It was up to the secretary of state to decide whether to ask for an assurance that the death penalty would not be imposed.

Even if the secretary of state chose to request an assurance, it was up to him alone to decide whether it was sufficient and if he decided it was not he was not bound to refuse extradition.

Mr Justice Macpherson delivered a concurring judgment. Solicitors: Powell, Magrath & Spencer; DPP.

No discrimination over foreign teacher course

Hampson v Department of Education and Science
Before Mr Justice Popplewell, Mr J. H. Gubbins and Mr S. Springer

[Judgment December 16]

A Hong Kong Chinese-trained teacher who was refused qualified teacher status in England because her course was not comparable with a course within paragraph 2(a) of Schedule 2(a) of the Education (Teachers) Regulations (SI 1982 No 106), was not unlawfully discriminated against on the ground of her race, since by section 41(1) of the Race Relations Act 1976, discriminatory acts done in pursuance of a statutory instrument were not unlawful.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal dismissed an appeal by Theresa Lee Ping Li Hampson from a decision of a London industrial tribunal in November 1986 that she had not been unlawfully discriminated against by the respondent, the Department of Education and Science.

She had appealed on the ground that section 41 of the 1976 Act, which provided that acts of discrimination done in pursuance of any instrument made under any enactment by a minister of the Crown should

not be unlawful, was limited to acts done by a statutory requirement and did not protect statutory requirements or conditions which determined the mode of doing those acts.

MR JUSTICE POPPLEWELL said that between 1968 and 1970 the applicant had done a two-year initial teachers' training course in Hong Kong. Eight years later she completed another one-year course. A three-year initial training course was not available in Hong Kong at that time.

Qualified teacher status was a necessary qualification to teach in state schools in England. Her application had been refused by the secretary of state because her course was not comparable with English training as it was only two years in length — the latter two years not being an integral part of the initial training and its content was not of an equivalent standard.

Schedule 5 to the 1982 Regulations provided that a person was qualified to be employed as a teacher if they had attained certain academic

awards or comparable awards following an approved course for the initial training of teachers.

The industrial tribunal found that the applicant was required to complete a course approved as comparable with a course within Schedule 5, that requirement was applied in pursuance of the 1982 Regulations and that section 41 applied so that even if the requirement did constitute indirect discrimination the applicant could not succeed on a claim of unlawful discrimination.

In deciding what was comparable the department had stated that the course should be for a period of three years and should constitute an "integrated course of teacher training".

It was contended for the applicant that the actual conditions for giving approval were formulated by the secretary of state and could be modified by him without reference to Schedule 5. It was submitted that section 41

Wharry Burn to head field day for Towcester course winners

By Mandarin
(Michael Phillips)

Those that lay great store in the saying "horses for courses" could well be in for a field day at Towcester this afternoon, as five of the races may be won by horses who have won there before.

In order of appearance, they are: Wharry Burn (1.0), Solent Lad (1.30), Glenside Jerry (2.0), Greenero Pride (2.30) and Button Your Lip (3.0).

WHARRY BURN is an interesting runner in the first division of the Mistletree Novices' Chase. He escapes being penalized for winning a handicap at Worcester a fortnight ago because that race was confined to conditional jockeys.

Trained until his retirement by Ian Dodgson, but now with Tim Foster, Wharry Burn should prove too good at the weights for David Nicholson's Lordy Boy.

But the master of Condote does appear to have the answer to the second division in the shape of **BUTTON YOUR LIP**, whose success over the course and distance was achieved in a hurdle race last season.

More recently, he was a glowing testimony to the transformation that a pair of blinkers can have.

At Leicester, in November, he performed moderately when finishing only fourth, but at Sandown next time out he landed a bright young prospect when accounting for Direct Approach and Puck's Place.

SOLENT LAD, my selection for the Turkey and Ham Selling Hurdle, was similar races on no fewer than four occasions last season. This term he has been campaigning in better races without success. This drop in

class should suit him and he is preferred to Barney Curley's runner Solvent.

GLENSIDE JERRY, my fancy for the Port and Brandy Handicap Chase, has three course victories to his name, the most recent being on November 19 when he strolled home 25 lengths ahead of his field.

Since then he has been beaten, but not disgraced, by Star Of Screen at Worcester.

On 6th better terms, another course winner **MIRAS** should pose a greater threat than Mount Oliver. Proud Pilgrim would be a danger to all if only he could get his act together.

GREENERO PRIDE's easy win over the course nine days ago marks him down as the likely winner of the Holly and Ivy Conditional Jockeys' Handicap Chase.

The search for the day's best bet though has led to Edinburgh

where **ISHKHARA** is named to win the CBAOS Christmas Stocking Conditional Jockeys' Handicap Hurdle.

Mary Reveley's mare was in good form at the beginning of last season when she won three in a row.

Her start was delayed this year until three weeks ago at Huntingdon, where she formed creditably yet again, finishing a close third behind Fourth Tudor and Isaac Newton.

On that form she has nothing to fear from **Rassolobion**.

Quite what would have happened at Huntingdon, if he had not slipped approaching the first hurdle is anyone's guess. Mine is that today's race is the perfect consolation prize.

My other principal fancies on the Scottish track are **GENNARO** (1.15) and **FISH QUAY** (2.45).



Oric and Graham McCourt on their way to victory in the HSS Hire Shops Hurdle at Ascot

Elsworth in peak form as he chases big festive treble

By Michael Seely

Ladbrokes are only prepared to offer 4-1 against David Elsworth hitting a £105,000 jackpot over the Christmas holiday period with Desert Orchid, Floyd and Rhyme 'N' Reason.

Desert Orchid is an odds-on chance to become the seventh horse to win the King George VI Chase at Kempton on Boxing Day on two or more occasions.

Floyd is expected to further enhance his championship claims by making amends for last year's final-fall in the expensive sub-£100,000 Sunbury on the Monday.

Hopes are also high that the well-handicapped Rhyme 'N' Reason can land a substantial ante-post gamble in the Coral Welsh National at Chepstow the same afternoon.

"All three are bang on target," said Elsworth yesterday. "But you must never get carried away in racing. We'll just keep our fingers crossed that they remain all right during the coming week."

This gifted horseman is operating with a remarkable success of touch and sense of timing as he challenges Martin Pipe for the lead at the head of the trainers' table.

On Saturday, he saw his Cavvies Crown and Ross Arnold land some shrewd bets struck at 10-1 when proving too strong for Gold Beaver and Claude Monet in the SGH Handicap at Ascot.

"I fancied him quietly, as I thought he was back to his best," said Elsworth. "But I didn't want to shoot my mouth off as there were so many other fancied runners. In fact, I backed Claude Monet as well."

As yet Elsworth has no firm plans for the gallant winner. "He's in races like the Mandarins at Newbury," he said. "But he'll have to see how he's treated in future handicaps."

Jim Joel's and Josh Gifford's hopes of winning this valuable prize for the third consecutive year were thwarted when Chief Ironside fell at the first fence.

"He never took off at all and I was fired in the ground," said Richard Rowe. "I've got sore ribs and a sore back and I still feel dizzy," the jockey went on. "But I hope to be back in action at Folkestone on Tuesday."

Earlier in the afternoon, Rowe had also been out of luck when a last-fence mistake prevented **Andover** from making a closer fight of it with Bonanza Boy in the Peter Cox Novices Chase at the Sun Alliance Chase at the

National Hunt Festival is now the natural long-term target for both the first two home. Bonanza Boy showed tremendous courage to maintain his unbeaten record over fences after Peter Hobbs had been the first of the two riders to draw his whip.

Although Martin Pipe continued his incombustible march forward with the victories of Beldale Star at Nottingham and Princess Semole at Bangor, the Wellington trainer had an expensive setback when Concocted and Sabin Du Loir disappointed in the HSS Hire Shops Hurdle and the Youngman's Long Walk Hurdle respectively.

After Concocted had finished fourth behind Oric and Sabin Du Loir had taken third place behind Bluff Cove, Pipe said: "Concocted just didn't jump at

all. That's all there was to it. And as you saw, Sabin Du Loir was very distressed afterwards. He was suffering from a lack of oxygen, but he's all right now."

Chris was always travelling easily before sprinting home in the hands of Graham McCourt to beat Saffron Lord by five lengths. "He was very unlucky Saturday at Fontwell last Tuesday," said John Ryan. "The day's biggest gamble was landed when Brendan Power brought Panto Prince home five lengths clear of Long Engagement in the Frognore Handicap Chase. William Hill reported having lost £10,000 at their advertised odds in the morning, including a single wager of £55,000-£20,000."

It was a marvellous afternoon's racing. And one of the highlights of the day was J.A. McGrath's graphic course commentary on the remarkable late progress of The Processor to win the Hampton Court Hurdle. "The Processor is sprouting wings," said the Australia-born pundit. "He's still got a lot to do, but he's coming a wet sail, and now he's grabbing Mr Parker close home."

Jockey Club keeps silent about Home Office probe

The Jockey Club had no comment to make yesterday on an article in a Sunday newspaper suggesting that the Home Office is to be asked to investigate the way in which racing's ruling body conducts its affairs (Michael Seely writes).

"We have noted what has been said," said David Pipe, public relations manager to the Jockey Club.

The article consisted partly of

an interview with Melvyn Walters, a racehorse owner and the man whose allegations about the Henry Cecil letters started the Lester Piggott affair, after which the Jockey was sent to jail.

Only on Friday the Jockey Club issued a statement giving a full account of conversations and letters between certain Jockey Club members, who were also owners with Cecil, and the trainer, about suggested extra payments to Piggott.

Saturday's results

Ascot

12.15 1. Bonanza Boy (6-4 fav); 2. Ballyhane (11-4); 3. Springtime (11-4).
12.45 1. Oric (1-4 fav); 2. Saffron Lord (11-4); 3. Chief Ironside (11-4).
1.20 1. Bluff Cove (11-4); 2. Sabin Du Loir (11-4); 3. Saffron Lord (11-4).
1.45 1. Sabin Du Loir (11-4); 2. Saffron Lord (11-4); 3. Sabin Du Loir (11-4).
2.00 1. Sabin Du Loir (11-4); 2. Saffron Lord (11-4); 3. Sabin Du Loir (11-4).
2.15 1. Sabin Du Loir (11-4); 2. Saffron Lord (11-4); 3. Sabin Du Loir (11-4).
2.30 1. Sabin Du Loir (11-4); 2. Saffron Lord (11-4); 3. Sabin Du Loir (11-4).
2.45 1. Sabin Du Loir (11-4); 2. Saffron Lord (11-4); 3. Sabin Du Loir (11-4).
3.00 1. Sabin Du Loir (11-4); 2. Saffron Lord (11-4); 3. Sabin Du Loir (11-4).
3.15 1. Sabin Du Loir (11-4); 2. Saffron Lord (11-4); 3. Sabin Du Loir (11-4).
3.30 1. Sabin Du Loir (11-4); 2. Saffron Lord (11-4); 3. Sabin Du Loir (11-4).
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